

Facebook, Twitter pledge to defend against foreign intrusion

WASHINGTON (AP) — Facebook and Twitter executives assured Congress on Wednesday that they are aggressively working to root out foreign attempts to sow discord in America, and they pledged to better protect their social networks against manipulation during the 2018 midterm elections and beyond. Facebook's No. 2 executive, Sheryl Sandberg, and Twitter's CEO, Jack Dorsey, testified before the Senate intelligence committee in the morning, but there was an empty chair for Google parent company Alphabet, which refused to send its top executive. In the afternoon, Dorsey went before a House panel alone to address Republican concerns that Twitter is censoring conservatives. Dorsey denied that is happening.

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An empty chair reserved for Google's parent Alphabet, which refused to send its top executive, is seen as Facebook COO Sheryl Sandberg accompanied by Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey testify before the Senate Intelligence Committee hearing on 'Foreign Influence Operations and Their Use of Social Media Platforms' on Capitol Hill, Wednesday, Sept. 5, 2018, in Washington. Google CEO did not show for the hearing.

Associated Press

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Kavanaugh's lips sealed on White House subpoenas, pardons

By MARK SHERMAN and LISA MASCARO

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Pressured by Democrats with Donald Trump on their minds, Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh rejected repeated efforts at Wednesday's Senate confirmation hearing to reveal his views about a president pardoning himself or being forced to testify in a criminal case.

For a second day, the judge nominated by Trump insisted to probing senators that he fully embraced the importance of judicial independence. But he refused to provide direct answers to Democrats who wanted him to say whether there are limits on a president's power to issue pardons, in-



President Donald Trump's Supreme Court nominee, Brett Kavanaugh, gestures as he testifies before the Senate Judiciary Committee on Capitol Hill in Washington, Wednesday, Sept. 5, 2018, on the second day of his confirmation hearing to replace retired Justice Anthony Kennedy.

cluding to himself or in exchange for a bribe. He also would not say whether he believes the president can be subpoenaed to testify. "I'm not going to answer hy-

pothetical questions of that sort," Kavanaugh said in response to a question from Sen. Patrick Leahy of Vermont about pardons. Still, he began his long day in

the witness chair by declaring that "no one is above the law."

The Senate Judicial Committee hearing has strong political overtones ahead of the November congressional elections, but as a practical matter Democrats lack the votes to block Kavanaugh's confirmation.

They are concerned that Kavanaugh will push the court to the right on abortion, guns and other issues, and that he will side with Trump in cases stemming from special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation of Russian interference in the 2016 election and possible ties to the Trump campaign. The 53-year-old appellate judge answered cautiously when asked about most of those matters, refusing an invitation from Democratic Sen. Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut to pledge to step aside from any Supreme Court cases dealing with Trump and Mueller's investigation.

Protesters continued their efforts to interrupt the hearings, but senators basically ignored their shouts as they were removed by police. Democrats' complaints also persisted that they were being denied access to records from Kavanaugh's time in the George W. Bush White House.

One TV viewer gave Kavanaugh a rave review.

Trump said he had been watching the hearings and thought the Democrats were "grasping at straws" in questioning the man he chose to replace retired Justice Anthony Kennedy. He said he "saw some incredible answers to very complex questions."

The committee's top Democrat, Dianne Feinstein of California, disagreed. "He's not being very specific," she said during a break in the proceedings.

The Democrats weren't the only ones who recognized the importance of questions about Trump and the Russia investigation. Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley, an Iowa Republican, asked Kavanaugh right away whether

he would be independent from the president who chose him for highly prestigious lifetime position.

Kavanaugh said, "The first thing that makes a good judge is independence, not being swayed by political or public pressure."

He cited historic cases including the Brown v. Board of Education ruling that desegregated schools and the U.S. v. Nixon decision that compelled the president to turn over the Watergate tapes -- a ruling that Kavanaugh had previously questioned.

"That takes some backbone," he said of the justices who decided those cases. But when asked more specific questions, including whether a president can be required to respond to a subpoena, Kavanaugh said, "I can't give you an answer on that hypothetical question."

The Supreme Court has never answered that question, and it is among the potentially most important since Trump could face a subpoena from special counsel Mueller.

Sen. Amy Klobuchar, a Minnesota Democrat, asked whether a president could be criminally investigated or indicted. Kavanaugh again said he had never taken a position on those issues, though he did write in a 1998 article that impeachment may be the only way to hold a president accountable while in office.

"The Constitution itself seems to dictate, in addition, that congressional investigation must take place in lieu of criminal investigation when the President is the subject of investigation, and that criminal prosecution can occur only after the President has left office," he wrote in the Georgetown Law Review.

On abortion, Kavanaugh said the landmark 1973 Roe v. Wade decision that ensures access to abortion has been affirmed "many times." "Respect for precedent is important. ... Precedent is rooted right in the Constitution itself," he said. □

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FOREIGN INTRUSION

Continued from Front

The hearings come at a critical time, just two months before the midterm elections and as President Donald Trump has charged that Twitter is biased against Republican views.

Senators had sharp words for Alphabet CEO Larry Page. Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., suggested the company was a no-show because it was "arrogant."

Sandberg's appearance came several months after Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg testified at highly publicized Capitol Hill hearings.

Like Zuckerberg, she acknowledged Facebook's lag in recognizing Russian efforts to manipulate Facebook during and after the 2016 presidential election. Sandberg detailed Facebook's efforts to fight the problem with new technology and manpower.

"We are even more determined than our adversaries, and we will continue to fight back," she said.

Dorsey was candid with both committees about what his company needs to improve, while defending Twitter against allegations of bias.

Holding his phone throughout the hearings, Dorsey tweeted some of his opening statement to the Senate: "We aren't proud of how that free and open exchange has been weaponized and used to distract and divide people, and our nation. We found ourselves unprepared and ill-equipped for the immensity of the problems we've acknowledged."

He added: "Abuse, harassment, troll armies, propaganda through bots and human coordination, misinformation campaigns, and divisive filter bubbles — that's not a healthy public square. Worse, a relatively small number of bad-faith actors were able to game Twitter to have an outsized impact."

As the executives spoke, the Justice Department announced it would look at whether their companies are hurting competition and "intentionally stifling the free exchange of ideas on their platforms."

Justice Department

spokesman Devin O'Malley said Attorney General Jeff Sessions will meet with a number of state attorneys general later this month to discuss the department's concerns.

Sandberg, 49, has extensive Washington experience, typically acts as her company's public face and clearly felt comfortable answering senators' questions. The bearded and tieless Dorsey, 41, is far less of a public figure and was quiet and respectful in his answers, even acknowledging at one point that he is "typically pretty shy." Both contrasted with Zuckerberg's sometimes awkward defiance during his Washington appearance in April.

Thirteen Russians were indicted by special counsel Robert Mueller this year on charges of taking part in a plot to disrupt the 2016 election by creating fake social media accounts that pushed divisive issues.

Both Facebook and Twitter are using artificial intelligence and other increasingly sophisticated technology to combat manipulation. Facebook is going after "inauthenticity," or fake accounts. Twitter is focusing on analyzing behavior patterns to find suspicious activity because Twitter technically allows "fake" accounts.

The companies have made many policy changes and have caught and banned malicious accounts over the past year. Still, their business models — free services that rely on attracting as many users as possible for as long as possible and finding out as much about them as possible — remain the same, and that has posed challenges in rooting out those bent on mischief.

GOP Sen. Richard Burr of North Carolina, the Intelligence committee chairman, commended the companies for their efforts but said Congress is concerned that not enough has been done.

"Clearly, this problem is not going away," Burr said. "I'm not even sure it's trending in the right direction."

Dorsey said Twitter has continued to identify accounts that may be linked to

the same Russian internet agency cited in Mueller's indictment. He said Twitter has suspended 3,843 accounts it believes are connected to that agency. Facebook has also taken down pages this year that it believes were tied to the agency.

At the House hearing, Energy and Commerce chairman Greg Walden, R-Ore., cited recent complaints that Twitter limited the visibility of prominent Republicans on its platform — a charge echoed by Trump himself.

"It takes years to build trust, but it only takes 280 characters to lose it," Walden said.

Dorsey has strongly denied that political ideology has played a part in any Twitter algorithms that determine what users see.

The assertion that conservatives are being censored has also been pushed by House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., and the No. 3 House Republican, Steve Scalise of Louisiana.

Committee Democrats charged that Republicans were manufacturing the issue ahead of the November elections.



Facebook COO Sheryl Sandberg, left, accompanied by Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey are sworn in before the Senate Intelligence Committee hearing on 'Foreign Influence Operations and Their Use of Social Media Platforms' on Capitol Hill, Wednesday, Sept. 5, 2018, in Washington.

Associated Press

"This hearing appears to be one more mechanism to raise money and generate outrage," said Rep. Frank Pallone of New Jersey, the committee's top Democrat. Other Democrats called it a "charade" and "a load of crap." Twitter came under fire from some on the far right after suspending conspiracy theorist Alex Jones last month, as did Facebook. Jones made an angry appearance Wednesday outside both hearing rooms, telling reporters he was there to "face my accus-

ers." Jones railed against the government, media and social media companies for more than 40 minutes in the hallway as the Senate hearing began. Later, he heckled a reporter outside the House hearing room. Jones' appearance punctuated an otherwise orderly day of hearings. The only other disruption was a protester in the House hearing who yelled at Dorsey about bias — and was drowned out by a Republican lawmaker who used his auctioneering skills. □

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Inside the makeover of the Democratic Party

By **BILL BARROW** and **JUANA SUMMERS**

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Democratic makeover is in full swing.

With just a few primaries remaining before the decisive midterm elections in November, voters have dramatically reshaped the Democratic Party to become younger, more diverse and unquestionably liberal.

The latest turn came Tuesday in Massachusetts, where Boston City Councilor Ayanna Pressley, 44, trounced 10-term congressman Mike Capuano, 66, in a Democratic primary. It reprised a June primary upset in which self-proclaimed democratic socialist Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, 29, toppled New York congressman Joe Crowley, one of the House Democrats' top leaders. They join minority candidates like Democratic gubernatorial nominees Stacey Abrams of Georgia and Andrew Gillum of Florida and a host of younger white candidates — including dozens of women and a gaggle of veterans — who are offering voters an antidote to President Donald Trump.

"We are at a crossroads," Pressley declared during a party unity rally Wednesday. "This can be our darkest hour or it can be our finest."

Outsider candidates are taking on establishment-aligned Democratic incumbents in the final primaries of the season over the coming week in states such as Delaware and Rhode Island.

Victories by candidates such as Pressley and Ocasio-Cortez have generated substantial grassroots energy. But they've also raised questions about whether



Ayanna Pressley, who won the 7th Congressional District Democratic primary Tuesday, speaks at a Massachusetts Democratic Party unity event, Wednesday, Sept. 5, 2018, in Boston. At left is Boston Mayor Marty Walsh, and at right is Massachusetts Treasurer Deb Goldberg.

Associated Press

the party will be able to compete in broad swaths of the country, a potential vulnerability Republicans are eager to exploit. There's also debate over what a younger, more diverse class of lawmakers might mean for the fate of congressional leaders such as House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi and potential 2020 presidential candidates who are older and white, including former Vice President Joe Biden. "2020 is going to be about who voters want best to stand up to Trump and to take on Trump," said Ben Tulchin, who worked as a pollster for Democratic presidential candidate Bernie Sanders in 2016. "You're going to have to have an authentically progressive message and to be able to communicate that."

For now, Democratic leaders are embracing the enthusiasm of their base — even as it's unclear where it

will lead.

"The energy and momentum and the strength is clearly on our side," said Rep. Ben Ray Lujan of New Mexico, the chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. "There's nothing more unifying than winning back the House of Representatives and restoring checks and balances."

Democrats' leftward lurch looks different contest to contest. Capuano and Crowley are reliable liberals, but Pressley and Ocasio-Cortez often go further, with full-throated calls for single-payer government health insurance and abolishing U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or ICE. Coming from heavily Democratic districts, Pressley and Ocasio-Cortez won't determine whether Democrats pick up the 23 new seats necessary for a House majority. But they will affect the makeup of the

Democratic caucus and what its priorities might be on issues from health care and immigration to potential impeachment proceedings against Trump once a special counsel investigation presents its findings.

Elsewhere, Democratic nominees represent a clear shift from the status quo even if they aren't as left-leaning as Ocasio-Cortez. Congressional nominees like Iowa's Abby Finkenauer or Arkansas' Clarke Tucker were the more moderate choices in their respective primaries, but are now trying to topple Republican incumbents with calls for a public option health insurance plan to compete alongside for-profit insurers. Abrams, the Georgia Democrat who'd be the nation's first black woman elected governor, stops short of single-payer health care and abolishing ICE but promises to expand Medicaid insur-

ance and keep Georgia's state resources from aiding mass deportation efforts.

And dozens of Democratic candidates for federal and state offices — regardless of their positions on ICE, health care or impeachment — have sworn off corporate campaign cash.

The embrace of those positions among primary voters has activists on the left looking forward to upcoming primaries in Delaware, where Kerri Evelyn Harris, a black gay woman, is challenging moderate incumbent Democrat Tom Carper on Thursday. In New York, actress Cynthia Nixon will try on Sept. 13 to oust Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo. It's unclear whether any of these outsider candidates will enjoy the same success as Pressley or Ocasio-Cortez.

The overall trend has been a wakeup call on Capitol Hill and thrilled leaders of the anti-Trump resistance and the grassroots left.

Stefanie Brown James, co-founder of Collective PAC, which supports African-American candidates, praised Pressley as an example of a new assertiveness that goes beyond policy. "I think that for so long, a lot of us who are Democrats have felt like, 'Dude, where's the fight back? ... Where's the toughness?'" she said. "You're seeing candidates who are brash and aggressive and are like, 'No, we're not going to wait.'"

Crowley, who'd been viewed as a possible future House speaker before his defeat, said Wednesday he was "sad" for Capuano, but celebrated "the engagement and the activity that it's causing and the fervor that is forming (among) young people, women." □



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Major opioid maker to pay for overdose-antidote development

By GEOFF MULVIHILL
Associated Press

A company whose prescription opioid marketing practices are being blamed for sparking the addiction and overdose crisis says it's helping to fund an effort to make a lower-cost overdose antidote.

OxyContin maker Purdue Pharma announced Wednesday that it's making a \$3.4 million grant to Harm Reduction Therapeutics, a Pittsburgh-based nonprofit, to help develop a low-cost naloxone nasal spray.

The announcement comes as lawsuits from local governments blaming Purdue, based in Stamford, Connecticut, and other companies in the drug industry for using deceptive marketing practices to encourage heavy prescribing of the powerful and addictive painkillers. Last week, the

number of lawsuits against the industry being overseen by a federal judge topped 1,000.

The Cleveland-based judge, Dan Polster, is pushing the industry to settle with the plaintiffs — mostly local governments and Native American tribes — and with state governments, most of which have sued in state court or are conducting a joint investigation. Hundreds of other local governments are also suing in state courts across the country.

The sides have had regular settlement discussions, but it's not clear when a deal might be struck in the case, which is complicated by the number of parties and questions on how to assign blame.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimated that drug overdoses killed a record 72,000

Americans last year, about 10 percent more than in 2016. The majority of the deaths involved opioids. But a growing number of them are from illicit synthetic drugs, including fentanyl, rather than prescription opioids such as OxyContin or Vicodin. Governments are asking for changes in how opioids are marketed, and for help paying for treatment and the costs of ambulance runs, child welfare systems, jails and other expenses associated with the opioid crisis.

Purdue agreed to pay \$634 million in fines back in 2007 to settle charges that the company downplayed the risk of addiction and abuse of its blockbuster painkiller OxyContin starting in the 1990s. It's facing similar accusations again.

Earlier this year, the privately held company stopped marketing OxyContin to



This May 8, 2007 file photo shows the Purdue Pharma offices in Stamford, Conn.

Associated Press

doctors.

The naloxone grant is a way the company can show it's trying to help stem the damage done by opioids. "This grant is one example of the meaningful steps Purdue is taking to help address opioid abuse in our communities," Purdue President and CEO Craig Landau said in a statement.

Paul Hanly, one of the lead lawyers for plaintiffs in the lawsuits, said having more access to an overdose antidote would be good, but he questioned Purdue's

motives.

"I think it's just a strategic move on their part to curry favor with the judge, and the public," he said. Naloxone is seen as one major piece in overdose prevention strategies. Over the past several years, most states have eased access to the antidote for laypeople. First responders, drug users and others have taken to carrying naloxone to reverse overdoses. But the price of the drug has been a problem for state and local governments. □

No immediate ruling in GOP's latest 'Obamacare' lawsuit

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — A federal judge in Texas did not immediately rule on the latest push by Republicans to end the Affordable Care Act.

A small group of protesters Wednesday stood outside a Fort Worth, Texas, courtroom where 20 Republican-led states have launched a new challenge over the law that insures 20 million Americans.

Republican Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton is



Supporters of the Affordable Care Act protest during a rally at Burnett Park in Fort Worth, Texas, Wednesday, Sept. 5, 2018.

Associated Press

leading an effort to scrap the law in the wake of Congress repealing the "individual mandate," which requires most Americans to buy insurance or risk a tax penalty. It's the most high-profile lawsuit against the federal health care law since President Donald Trump took office.

The arguments in Texas unfolded while senators in Washington continued pressing Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh,

whose confirmation could swing the next major challenge to the law. □



Gordon, never a hurricane, killed child in mobile home

By JAY REEVES and REBECCA SANTANA

Associated Press

DAUPHIN ISLAND, Ala. (AP)

— Tropical Storm Gordon never became a hurricane but it was deadly all the same, killing a child by blowing a tree onto a mobile home as it made land-fall. The storm weakened into a depression Wednesday but remained dangerous, dumping rain, spawning possible tornadoes and kicking up heavy surf in its wake.

Gordon struck the coast at 70 mph, just shy of hurricane strength, near Pascagoula, Mississippi late Tuesday. Forecasters said radar spotted possible tornados spun off by the storm overnight in southern Alabama and the Florida panhandle. Parts of the panhandle had received more than 10 inches (25 centimeters) in 24 hours as of midday Wednesday.

Even as the system was weakening into a remnant low it still posed threats as it moved inland on a forecast track that would take its center northwest into Arkansas, then northeast toward the Great Lakes. Forecasters predicted total rain amounts of 4-8 inches (10-20 centimeters) in parts of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa and Illinois. Rainfall could be even more intense in isolated spots — up to 12 inches (30 centimeters) through early Saturday.

The only death reported as of Wednesday afternoon was the child killed late Tuesday when a large oak tree branch fell onto a mobile home in Pensacola, Florida. Neighbor Amanda Ray told the Pensacola News Journal she heard a crack and a scream as the limb fell around 9 p.m. Tuesday.

"It was just awful," she said, adding that the sounds were almost indistinguishable from the storm's howling winds. The Escambia County Sheriff's office posted on its Facebook page that responding deputies discovered the



Pieces of an oak tree are seen after it fell on a mobile home killing a child in Pensacola, Fla., Wednesday, Sept. 5 2018. Tropical Storm Gordon never became a hurricane and is now a depression, dumping rain across several southern states.

Associated Press

child had been killed. Officials haven't released the child's identity.

Neighbors told the newspaper the victim was about 10 months old.

Escambia County received 10 calls overnight for downed trees in roadways, along with multiple reports of arcing power lines as the storm blew through with peak gusts of 61 mph (98 kph). Beachgoers in the area were warned Wednesday of dangerous rip currents that prompted red-flag warnings, meaning it was illegal to enter the Gulf of Mexico.

Driftwood and other debris made for hazardous driving early Wednesday on the causeway to Dauphin Island, Alabama, which was partly flooded by seawater overnight, leaving people to drive over sand and around lawn furniture on the main road. Siding was peeled off some houses, but Mayor Jeff Collier said "for the most part, we did OK."

Dominic Carlucci drove back to his home on the barrier island in his Hummer, and found no damage, just a sagging wooden fence.

It wasn't nearly as bad as when Nate, the last hurricane to strike the U.S., came ashore last October in nearby Biloxi, Mississippi. "We're good," he said.

On the Mississippi Gulf Coast, 12 casinos that were ordered closed Tuesday were given permission Wednesday to open at noon. In Biloxi, fisherman Ndoc Nguyen was returning with his shrimp boat to the marina. He and other boaters had taken their boats inland in various rivers to protect them from the storm surge and winds. Nguyen said he would likely have to wait a few days "for the wind to calm down" before going out on the water again.

"This is the price you pay to look at this beautiful water and enjoy the coast," Pascagoula resident Richard Whitlock said as he raked leaves and branches from his yard overlooking the Gulf.

A storm surge covered barrier islands as the storm blew through, and some inland roadways were flooded by the rain. The National Weather Service in Mobile cautioned that the Styx Riv-

er near Elsanor, Alabama, could reach moderate, and possibly major, flood stage later Wednesday. More than 27,000 customers were without power as Gordon began pushing ashore, mostly in coastal Alabama and the western tip of the Florida Panhandle around Pensacola, with a few hundred in southeastern Mississippi. Crews were already restoring electricity early Wednesday.

Rain was still falling but the lights were on at a Waffle House restaurant in Mobile, where factory worker Jerome Richardson said he lost power at 9 p.m. as the storm passed overhead. He was still without electricity as he left before dawn for his 12-hour shift.

"I just hope I don't have to throw out everything in my refrigerator when I get home," he said.

Governors in Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana had all declared states of emergency to better mobilize state resources and National Guard troops for the storm. Workers on at least 54 oil and gas production platforms were evacuated. Communities along the

coast provided sand and bags, and many hustled to protect their properties ahead of the storm. New Orleans braced for flooding, but in the end got only a glancing blow.

New concerns: Hurricane Florence has formed in the Atlantic Ocean, on a path toward Bermuda, and lining up behind it, another potential storm was likely to form not far off the coast of Africa.

"It's the peak of hurricane season," Hurricane Center Director Ken Graham said. "Now is the time to get your plans all set." □



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Jet quarantined in New York after reports of sick passengers

NEW YORK (AP) — A commercial jet from Dubai prompted a large-scale emergency response at New York's Kennedy Airport on Wednesday after a pilot reported that several passengers and crew members were complaining about having a flu-like illness.

The Emirates flight arriving at 9:10 a.m. with 520 passengers was swarmed by police vehicles and ambulances and immediately quarantined for an assessment by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Passenger Erin Sykes posted video of officials wearing masks and gloves taking the temperature of passengers on the tarmac.

In an interview, Sykes said she saw a few passengers being taken off the plane first for medical attention,

but she added that "many, many" others were showing signs of illness.

"Very intense coughing. Violently sick. Going into the bathroom a lot," she said when asked to describe the scene.

By afternoon, there were still conflicting reports about how many people were sick and unanswered questions about the cause. The airline said about 10 passengers needed medical attention "as a precaution," while the CDC said about 100 of the 520 people aboard the plane were being evaluated after complaining of illness, including cough and fever. A spokesman for Mayor Bill de Blasio said 10 people were hospitalized and another eight were being treated at the airport.

Video from news helicopters showed the jet strand-

ed on the tarmac for several minutes before passengers began to emerge. Those who were cleared were put on buses to get to the terminal.

A traveler in the business section of the aircraft, Raghida Dergham, said in an interview that sick passengers were in a "lower level" economy section of the plane.

"I feel great. I feel fine," she said. "Nobody was alarmed. ... It was handled very well."

But other passengers said they suspected that some passengers were sick before they got on the plane and that the airline should have done more to protect others.

"Why did they allow them on the flight? ... I sat with them for 13 hours. If it's a virus, we're all getting sick," Srinivasa Rao said. □



Passengers leave an Emirates airplane at New York's Kennedy Airport amid reports of ill passengers aboard a flight from Dubai on Wednesday, Sept. 5, 2018.

Associated Press

Hard alcohol ban ordered for most U.S., Canada fraternities

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — A ban intending to clamp down on hard liquor at frat house parties following pledge deaths last year has been ordered for most fraternities in the United States and Canada, unless the drinks are served by someone with a liquor license. All international and national fraternities of the North American Interfraternity Conference have a year to prohibit drinks with an alcohol content of 15 percent or more from fraternity

chapters and events, unless it is served by licensed third-party vendors, the group said Tuesday.

The rule was adopted Aug. 27 in a "near-unanimous vote" and must be implemented by Sept. 1, 2019, conference spokeswoman Heather Kirk said in an emailed release. The group has more than 6,100 chapters on 800 campuses.

Authorities say fraternity pledges suffered alcohol-related deaths at Louisiana State University and Penn

State University last year.

Alcohol abuse and "its serious consequences endanger" fraternities' core values of brotherhood, personal development and providing a community of support, said Judson Horras, president and CEO of the Carmel, Indiana-based conference. "This action shows fraternities' clear commitment and leadership to further their focus on the safety of members and all in our communities," Horras said. □

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Canada's strong-willed foreign minister leads trade talks

By ROB GILLIES

TORONTO (AP) — She is many things that would seem to irritate President Donald Trump: a liberal Canadian former journalist.

That makes Foreign Minister Chrystia Freeland an unusual choice to lead Canada's negotiations over a new free trade deal with a surprisingly hostile U.S. administration.

Recruited into politics by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Freeland has already clashed with Russia and Saudi Arabia. Those who know her say she's unlikely to back down in a confrontation with Trump.

"She is everything the Trump administration loathes," said Sarah Goldfeder, a former official with the U.S. Embassy in Canada.

Freeland, a globalist negotiating with a U.S. administration that believes in economic nationalism and populism, hopes to salvage a free trade deal with Canada's largest trading partner as talks resumed Wednesday in Washington. The 50-year-old Harvard graduate and Rhodes scholar speaks five languages and has influential friends around the world.

"I have enormous sympathy for her because she is negotiating with an unpredictable, irrational partner," said CNN host Fareed Zakaria, a friend of Freeland's for 25 years.

Freeland cut short a trip to Europe last week after Trump reached a deal with Mexico that excluded Canada. Talks with Canada resumed but Trump said he wasn't willing to make any concessions.

The Trump administration left Canada out of the talks for five weeks not long after the president vowed to make Canada pay after Trudeau said at the G-7 in Quebec he wouldn't let Canada get pushed around in trade talks. Freeland then poked the U.S. when she received Foreign Policy magazine's diplomat of the year award in Washington.

"You may feel today that your size allows you to go mano-a-mano with your



In this Aug. 31, 2018, file photo, Canada's Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland speaks during a news conference at the Canadian Embassy after talks at the Office of the United States Trade Representative, in Washington.

Associated Press

traditional adversaries and be guaranteed to win," Freeland said in the June speech. "But if history tells us one thing, it is that no one nation's pre-eminence is eternal."

Despite being the chief negotiator with the Trump administration, Freeland has criticized it when few other leaders of Western democracies have.

"She's an extremely strong-willed and capable young woman, and I think Trump generally has a problem with that," said Ian Bremmer, a longtime friend and foreign affairs columnist and president of the Eurasia Group. "She's not going to bat her eyelashes at Trump to get something done. That's not Chrystia. She doesn't play games."

After Freeland and her department tweeted criticism of Saudi Arabia last month for the arrest of social activists in the kingdom, Canada suffered consequences. The Saudis suspended diplomatic relations and canceled new trade with Canada and sold off Canadian assets.

Peter MacKay, a former Canadian foreign minister, said public shaming like that doesn't work and said

some Americans viewed her June speech in Washington as something less than diplomatic.

"It was around that time, within days, that the U.S. threw Canada out of the room," MacKay said. "There is sometimes concern that she is taking the lead from her prime minister by playing a little bit to a domestic audience."

Trudeau personally recruited Freeland to join his Liberal Party while it was the third party in Parliament in 2013. Freeland had a senior position at the Reuters news agency but was ready to move on after setbacks in her journalism career, said Martin Wolf, an influential Financial Times columnist and longtime friend.

Freeland previously had risen rapidly at the Financial Times where she became Moscow bureau chief in her mid-20s during the collapse of the Soviet Union. Freeland also served as deputy editor of the Globe and Mail in Toronto and the Financial Times. She had designs on becoming editor of the Financial Times but left after a clash with the top editor. She was familiar to many TV viewers in the U.S. because of her

regular appearances on talk shows like Zakaria's.

"She was a godsend for us, frankly, because she is so bright and so talented and articulate," Zakaria said. "She is as about as impressive a person as I have met."

Freeland, who is of Ukrainian heritage, also wrote a well-received book on Russia and left journalism for politics in 2013 when she won a district in Toronto. She has been a frequent critic of Russian President Vladimir Putin, who banned her from traveling to the country in 2014 in retaliation for Western sanctions against Moscow.

She remains chummy with journalists, even bringing them frozen treats in 90-degree heat last week while they waited outside the U.S. Trade Representative office in Washington.

Bremmer, who met Freeland in Kiev in 1992, good-naturedly chided her for a strange foible: a habit of writing notes on her hands even when she has notepads.

"I have seen in her environments with foreign ministers and heads of state with stuff on her hands," he said with a laugh.

Throughout her career, Freeland has cultivated an impressive group of friends. Mark Carney, the Bank of England governor, is a godfather to one of her three children. Friends include Larry Summers, the former U.S. treasury secretary, and billionaires George Soros and Stephen Schwarzman, the Blackstone Group chief executive who once led one of Trump's disbanded business councils.

"I always found her to be extremely smart and easy to talk with," Schwarzman said. "She accessible and direct and quick. You don't get to be a Rhodes scholar by accident."

Summers is a mentor from Harvard.

"Her clarity of thought, straightforwardness and deep sense of principle make her an ideal leader of the international community as it responds to highly problematic American policy," Summers said in an email.

Bremmer said Freeland has serious globalist credentials, "but right now, momentum is not with that group globally."

When Trudeau became prime minister in 2015, he named Freeland to his Cabinet. She served as international trade minister and worked on ensuring that a free trade deal with the European Union didn't unravel. At one point, she left stalled talks near tears after saying it had been impossible to overcome differences. An agreement was reached not long after that, and Freeland received credit.

Now she's facing her toughest challenge with the North American Free Trade Agreement, since the U.S. represents 75 percent of Canada's exports.

"Canada is stuck with the United States. That's Canada's trade," Bremmer said. "Canadians are going to have to swallow a fair amount of pride. They are going have to pretend they like this guy a lot more than they obviously do or they risk getting much more economically punished. That's just the reality." □



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UK charges 2 Russians in absentia in nerve agent attack

By JILL LAWLESS
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Britain deepened its diplomatic feud with Moscow on Wednesday, charging two men it says are Russian military intelligence officers with the nerve-agent poisoning of Sergei Skripal, a double agent who betrayed the service by spying for the West.

But U.K. authorities acknowledged there was little chance Russia would hand over the suspects, Alexander Petrov and Ruslan Boshirov, to face justice in Britain.

Prime Minister Theresa May said the use of a chemical weapon in the city of Salisbury, which left a British woman dead and four people, including Skripal and his daughter, seriously ill, was carried out by officers of the GRU intelligence service and almost certainly approved "at a senior level of the Russian state." "This was not a rogue operation," she told lawmakers after police released photos of the suspects as they traveled through London and Salisbury before flying back to Moscow from Heathrow Airport on the evening of March 4, hours after the Skripals were poisoned.

Moscow strongly denies involvement in the attack, and Russian officials said they did not recognize the suspects.

Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said the names and images of Petrov and Boshirov "say nothing to us." British prosecutors said the two were being charged in absentia with conspiracy to murder, attempted murder and use of the nerve agent Novichok.

Sue Hemming of the Crown



Alexander Petrov



Ruslan Boshirov

This combination photo made available by the Metropolitan Police on Wednesday Sept. 5, 2018, shows Alexander Petrov, left, and Ruslan Boshirov.

Associated Press

Prosecution Service said the U.K. wouldn't ask Moscow to hand the men over because Russian law forbids extradition of its citizens. Britain has obtained domestic and European arrest warrants for the suspects, meaning they can be detained if they leave Russia for another European country.

Neil Basu, Britain's top police counterterrorism officer, conceded it was "very, very unlikely" police would be in a position to arrest them any time soon. But, he said, "we will never give up."

Sergei Skripal, 67, is a former colonel in the GRU who was convicted in 2006 of spying for Britain and imprisoned. He was freed in a 2010 spy swap and settled in the U.K. Skripal and his 33-year-old daughter Yulia were found unconscious on a bench in Salisbury, 90 miles (145 kilometers) southwest of London, on March 4. They

spent weeks hospitalized in critical condition and are now recovering in a secret location for their own protection. A police officer, Nick Bailey, was also hospitalized.

British authorities and the international chemical weapons watchdog say the victims were exposed to Novichok, a type of military-grade nerve agent developed by the Soviet Union during the Cold War. The poisoning ignited a diplomatic confrontation in which hundreds of envoys were expelled by both Russia and Western nations. Six months after the chemical weapons attack rocked the quiet cathedral city, police released new details about what Basu called "one of the most complex investigations" the force had ever seen.

Police say Petrov and Boshirov, both about 40, flew from Moscow to London on Russian passports two

days before the Skripals were poisoned. Basu said the passports were genuine but the names were probably aliases, and appealed to the public to help identify the men.

Police revealed that traces of Novichok were found at a hotel in London's east end where the men spent two nights.

Police didn't test the budget City Stay Hotel for Novichok until two months after the attack, but Basu said the tiny quantity of nerve agent found there did not pose a risk to other guests. Police believe the nerve agent was smuggled to Britain in a counterfeit Nina Ricci perfume bottle and sprayed on the front door of Sergei Skripal's house.

More than three months later, the bottle was found by a local man, 48-year-old Charlie Rowley. He was hospitalized and his girlfriend Dawn Sturgess, 44, died after being exposed

to the contents.

The Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons confirmed Tuesday that Rowley and Sturgess were also exposed to Novichok.

Police are still trying to determine where the bottle was between the Skripal poisoning in March and its discovery by Rowley on June 27. As a result, Basu said, police weren't yet ready to lay charges in the second poisoning, though the two Russians are the prime suspects.

The case, with its chilling cloak-and-dagger details, echoes the 2006 murder of Alexander Litvinenko, a former Russian agent who died after drinking tea laced with radioactive polonium-210 at a London hotel. Britain spent years trying in vain to prosecute the prime suspects, Andrei Lugovoi and Dmitry Kovtun. A British inquiry concluded that Litvinenko had been killed at the behest of the Russian state, probably with the knowledge of President Vladimir Putin.

Russian defense and security analyst Pavel Felgenhauer said authorization to attack the Skripals had also likely come "from the very top."

"This is a message to the Russian intelligence community and spy community that you do not sell out Putin to the West or there are going to be serious consequences," he said.

Western officials say Russia's intelligence services have grown increasingly aggressive in their overseas activities. Members of the GRU have been indicted in the U.S. for hacking the Democratic Party and Hillary Clinton's campaign during the 2016 U.S. presidential election. □

New US adviser to Afghanistan raises hackles in region

By KATHY GANNON

Associated Press

ISLAMABAD (AP) — The choice of Zalmay Khalilzad as a U.S. special envoy to Afghanistan has raised some hackles in the region, with many saying the veteran diplomat's tough stance on Pakistan could hinder his mission to convince a resurgent Taliban to engage in peace talks.

In the past, Khalilzad has called on the U.S. to declare Pakistan a terrorist state, saying it harbors insurgents. The Trump administration has embraced a similar position, recently suspending \$300 million in aid to Pakistan, saying it isn't doing enough to eliminate Taliban safe havens on its territory.

But even critics of Pakistan — which denies the allegations — acknowledge it is a pivotal actor in any peace process because of its close ties to the insurgent group.

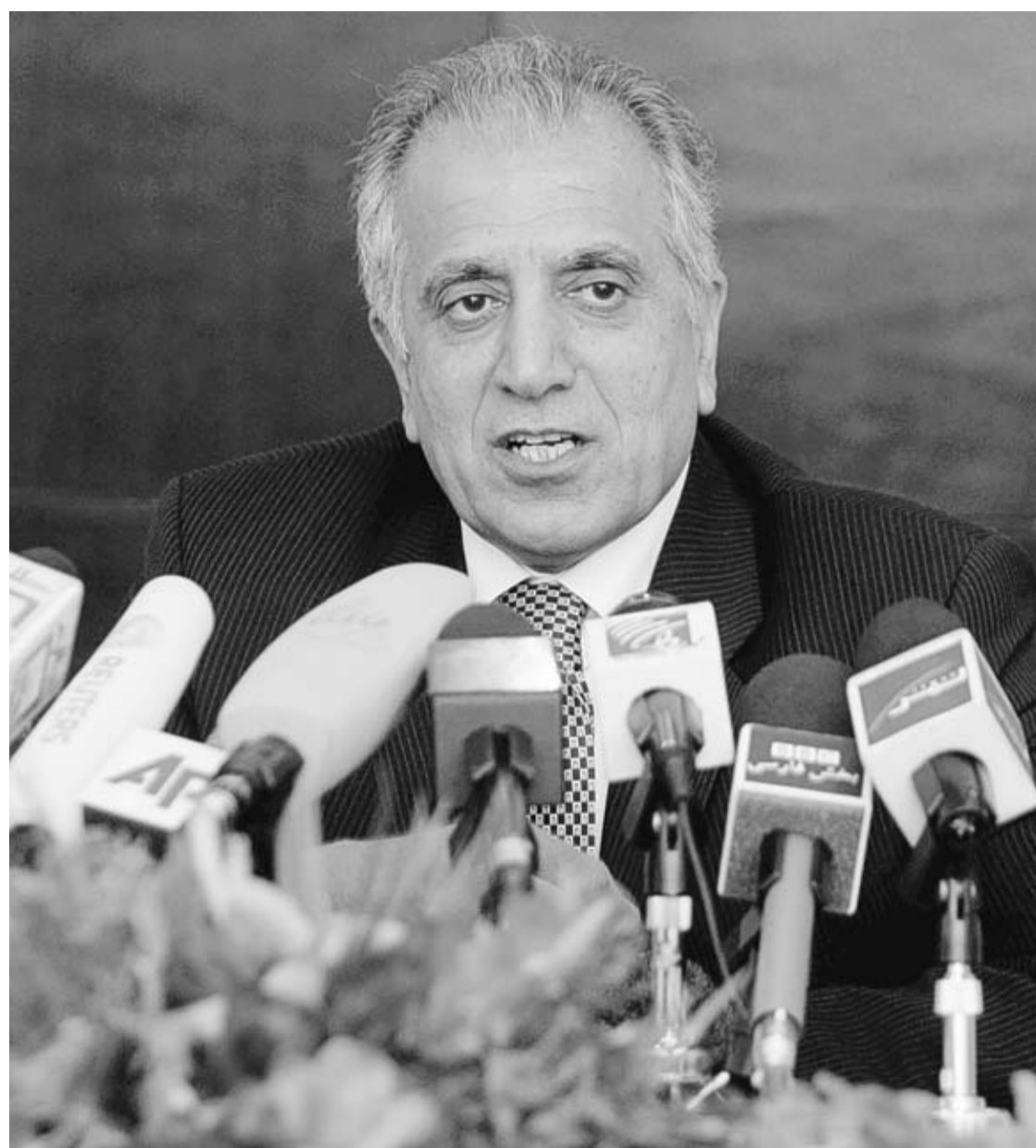
U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo announced Khalilzad's appointment as special adviser on reconciliation ahead of a brief visit to Pakistan on Wednesday, where he held talks for just four hours before flying onward to India.

Despite the frosty relationship, Pompeo acknowledged that the U.S. needs Pakistan's help in ending America's longest war, which began when the U.S. invaded Afghanistan to topple the Taliban after the Sept. 11 attacks.

"We need Pakistan to seriously engage to help us get to the reconciliation we need in Afghanistan," he told reporters aboard his plane. "They have important interests, security interests in Afghanistan to make sure they get the issues at their border right, and we need their help."

But the chairman of Pakistan's Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Mushahid Hussain, said the choice of Khalilzad was unwelcome news and did not bode well for U.S. attempts to end the Afghan conflict.

"Zalmay Khalilzad's appointment is a bad choice and sends a negative mes-



In this March 2009, file photo, Zalmay Khalilzad, special adviser on reconciliation in Kabul, Afghanistan.

Associated Press

sage to Islamabad, when Washington badly needs Pakistan's cooperation for peace and stability in Afghanistan," he said. "He is known as a Pakistan-hater, who has been unable to rise beyond his prejudices against Pakistan."

Khalilzad was born in Afghanistan, raised in the northern city of Mazar-e-Sharif and came to America as a teenage exchange student, where he discovered the merits of a very different way of life, according to his 2016 memoir. He studied at the University of Chicago.

He was appointed Washington's special envoy after the fall of the Taliban in 2001 and later as the U.S. ambassador to Afghanistan. While there, Khalilzad was often seen as a king-maker and de-facto ruler. Many Afghans blame him for cobbling together a government dominated by

warlords and plagued with corruption and infighting, saying it has contributed to the Taliban's resurgence.

"The Americans are quite keen on some dialogue with the Taliban and for that they know they need Pakistan's help, but appointing Zalmay Khalilzad will not help move things forward," said Zahid Hussain, a defense analyst and the author of two books on militancy in the region.

"His biases against Pakistan are well known," he added. For a U.S. administration that prizes loyalty, analysts said Khalilzad is a predictable choice, having ingratiated himself with Donald Trump during the 2016 presidential campaign.

"One thing that makes him attractive to the Trump administration is that he paid his dues during the campaign, not least by overlooking the anti-Muslim rhetoric and hosting Trump

at the National Interest for a foreign policy speech," said Daniel Markey, senior research professor at Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies. National Interest is a U.S.-based magazine that promotes American interests abroad.

Khalilzad was also said to have been considered for U.S. secretary of state following Trump's presidential win.

In Afghanistan, some members of smaller ethnic groups say Khalilzad favored his fellow Pashtuns when he previously served in the country. Pashtuns are the largest ethnic group in Afghanistan.

A leading rights activist for Afghanistan's minority Hazara community, Dawood Naji, said he was so worried about Khalilzad's return to Afghanistan that he launched an online petition to stop the appoint-

ment. But after a week he was barely halfway to his goal of 5,000 signatures.

"We had a bad experience when Zalmay Khalilzad was last special envoy and U.S. ambassador," said Naji. He said Khalilzad "slowly whittled away the authority of non-Pashtuns."

President Ashraf Ghani is a Pashtun, as is former president Hamid Karzai and most Taliban insurgents.

Ghani was also sent to the United States in his youth, on a student exchange program, and he and Khalilzad later studied together at the American University of Beirut. Afghanistan's opposition accused Khalilzad of working to help Ghani win the presidential election in 2014.


Pakistan's new Prime Minister Imran Khan, also an ethnic Pashtun, has said he is ready to partner with the U.S. in peace, but not in war. Khan has consistently advocated peace talks and is opposed to the long-time U.S. strategy of using military assaults to try and force the Taliban to the table.

Khalilzad's ethnic background could give him credibility with the Taliban, who have long demanded direct talks with the United States and dismiss the Afghan government as an American puppet. The Taliban declined a request from The Associated Press for comment on Khalilzad's appointment.

"His insider perspective — including knowing most of the players — puts him in rare company," said Markey. "As the (U.S.) administration is itching to find a way to get talks off the ground, this skill set is in higher demand."

But Michael Kugelman, deputy director of the Asia Program at the U.S.-based Wilson Center, said that given its close ties to the Taliban, Pakistan remains an important player in any reconciliation process.

"While we may be closer than ever before to launching a peace process, we've never been further from successfully concluding one," he said. □



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S. Korean envoys meet Kim to advance nuclear diplomacy

By KIM TONG-HYUNG

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)

— A South Korean delegation met with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un on Wednesday during a visit to arrange an inter-Korean summit planned for this month and help rescue faltering nuclear diplomacy between Washington and Pyongyang.

The office of South Korean President Moon Jae-in said the envoys led by his national security adviser delivered his personal letter to Kim and "exchanged opinions" on unspecified issues. It wasn't immediately clear whether the Korean officials fixed a date for a third summit this year between Moon and Kim or made any progress in breaking an impasse in talks between North Korea and the United States over dismantling Kim's nuclear weapons program. When asked whether the meeting with Kim went well, Moon spokesman Kim Eui-kyeom said he didn't know.

The envoys flew back to South Korea after attending a dinner reception hosted by the North. Earlier on Wednesday, they met Kim Yong Chol, a former spy chief who has been negotiating with the United States on nuclear issues, and Ri Son Gwon, chairman of the North's agency that handles inter-Korean affairs, at Pyongyang's Koryo hotel. South Korean officials said they couldn't provide further details. Moon's office is planning to hold a briefing on the visit on Thursday.

Moon, who discussed his plans with U.S. President



South Korean National Security Advisor Chung Eui-yong, National Intelligence Service Director Suh Hoon and other delegates return from North Korea at Seoul Airport in Seongnam, South Korea, Wednesday, Sept. 5, 2018.

Associated Press

Donald Trump by telephone on Tuesday, said before the trip that his envoys were tasked with a crucial role at a "very important time" that could determine the prospects for lasting peace on the Korean Peninsula.

While pushing ahead with summits and inter-Korean engagement, Seoul is trying to persuade Washington and Pyongyang to proceed with peace and denuclearization processes at the same time so they can overcome a growing dispute over the sequencing of the diplomacy.

Seoul also wants a trilateral summit among the countries, or a four-nation meeting that also includes Beijing, to declare a formal

end to the 1950-53 Korean War. The U.N. General Assembly in late September would be an ideal date for Seoul, but many analysts see that possibility as low, considering the complications of the process and how far apart the parties currently are.

U.S. officials have insisted that a peace declaration, which many see as a precursor to the North eventually calling for the removal of all U.S. troops from the Korean Peninsula, cannot come before North Korea takes more concrete action toward abandoning its nuclear weapons. Such steps may include providing an account of the components of its nuclear program, allowing outside

inspections and giving up a certain number of its nuclear weapons during the early stages of the negotiations.

While an end-of-war declaration wouldn't imply a legally binding peace treaty, experts say it could create political momentum that would make it easier for North Korea to steer the discussions toward a peace regime, diplomatic recognition, economic benefits and security concessions. North Korea has accused the United States of making "unilateral and gangster-like" demands for denuclearization and holding back on the end-of-war declaration. North Korea's Foreign Ministry on Tuesday published a lengthy statement

on its website saying that an end-of-war declaration would be a necessary trust-building step between the wartime foes that would "manifest the political will to establish the lasting and stable peace regime on the Korean Peninsula."

South Korean officials said an end-of-war declaration would be among the issues discussed in the meetings between the South Korean envoys and North Korean officials. "Our government believes that an end-of-war declaration is very much needed while we enter a process toward stabilizing peace in the Korean Peninsula through complete denuclearization," said Chung Eui-yong, Moon's national security adviser and the head of the South Korean delegation to Pyongyang, in a news conference on Tuesday.

"We will continue to put in efforts so that an end-of-war declaration can be reached by the end of the year. We are always maintaining close communication with the United States." Moon's five-member delegation, which also included his top intelligence officer, Suh Hoon, was the same group that traveled in March to Pyongyang, where they talked and dined with North Korean leader Kim and reached an agreement on the first summit between the Korean leaders in April. The South Korean officials later visited Trump at the White House where they conveyed Kim's desire for a summit, which Trump accepted on the spot. □

Venezuela launches airlift for migrants to return home

By **FRANKLIN BRICENO**
JOSHUA GOODMAN

LIMA, Peru (AP) — Some 300 Venezuelans gathered outside of their country's embassy in Peru on Tuesday shouting "We want to leave!" after President Nicolas Maduro offered to airlift migrants who wanted to return back to their homeland.

The Venezuelans, some of whom said they had been sleeping on the streets and were taken advantage of by Peruvian employers, arrived hours after Maduro on national TV unveiled the "Return to the Homeland Plan" to welcome back those who marched abroad amid the spiraling economic and social crisis. It also comes as regional governments are rushing to address the exodus straining tight budgets in almost every South American nation, with a special session Wednesday at the Organization of American States in Washington.

According to the United Nations, more than 2.3 million people, 7 percent of Venezuela's total population, have fled the country over the last three years during a period of widespread shortages, deadly anti-government protests and now hyperinflation the International Monetary



Venezuelan migrant Francy Rodriguez, 26, who worked in accounting in Venezuela and now cleans homes in Peru, waits in line outside her embassy in Lima, Peru, Tuesday, Sept. 4, 2018.

Associated Press

Fund estimates will hit 1 million percent.

But Venezuela's government disputes those figures, and is accusing opponents led by the U.S. of sounding an alarm about a humanitarian crisis to justify a foreign military intervention to remove Maduro.

"I sometimes feel pain for the Venezuelans who left," he said on state TV Monday, saying that fewer than 600,000 Venezuelans left the country over the past two years and that 90 per-

cent regret the decision. "We will hug you again, come to Venezuela, come back to the homeland. We Venezuelans are here, with our big, big Bolivian hearts." Last week, Maduro's government chartered a plane to bring almost 100 Venezuelans from Lima that he said had their dreams of a fresh start crushed by the crude realities of living in a high-priced capitalist country. Another airlift is scheduled to leave Ecuador on Wednesday, while a second plane-

load of Venezuelans from Peru is being organized for Saturday.

Some government opponents have called the airlifts a PR stunt intended to deflect attention away from the economic mismanagement that has driven so many people from their homes in the first place.

Those lining up outside Venezuelan embassy in Peru's capital were careful not to criticize Maduro — many acknowledged voting for him in the past

— and spoke of enduring hardships and discrimination while trying to adjust to life in a new country.

Armando Salazar, 50, said that he was earning around \$90 a week cleaning floors at a fish processing plant since arriving to Peru in January from his home in central Carabobo state. But last month he was let go and had to resort to peddling bottles of water on Lima's streets while sharing a tenement bedroom with five of his countrymen who were in similar straits.

"Things are difficult here too," said Salazar, who said that once back in Venezuela he hopes to recoup a business he abandoned selling fruit.

He said the future he faces in Venezuela remains uncertain but at least back home he'll be surrounded by family, including his wife, who didn't make the journey with him across South America. Inflation that the International Monetary Fund estimates will soon hit 1 million percent is expected to accelerate after Maduro last month began dismantling currency controls in place for more than a decade. On Tuesday, the government began rolling out a new payment system to raise gas prices in eight border states. □

UN anti-graft chief to work remotely after Guatemala ban

Associated Press

GUATEMALA CITY (AP) — The head of a U.N.-backed commission investigating corruption in Guatemala will continue to direct its work from outside the country after being barred from re-entering by President Jimmy Morales' government.

Matias Ponce, spokesman for the International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala, known as CICIG for its initials in Spanish, said Wednesday that Ivan Velasquez remains in his post and would work remotely from Washington, where he was holding meetings.

Morales' government an-



In this Sept. 14, 2017 file photo, Ivan Velasquez, commissioner of the United Nations International Commission Against Impunity, CICIG, pauses during an interview, in Guatemala City.

Associated Press

nounced Tuesday that Velasquez, a Colombian national, would not be al-

lowed to return to the Central American country and that he had asked U.N.

Secretary-General Antonio Guterres to name a replacement.

The U.N. responded in a statement that he had asked Velasquez to remain in charge "from outside Guatemala until there is more clarity on the situation."

"CICIG and its Commissioner play a pivotal role in the fight against impunity in Guatemala," the statement says. "The U.N. Secretariat has serious concerns about this decision, which it is currently reviewing and which does not appear to be consistent with the Agreement on the establishment of CICIG."

Guterres urged Guatemala

to "continue to search for a solution through dialogue," the statement reads.

Working with Guatemalan prosecutors, Velasquez's commission has pressed a number of corruption probes that have ensnared dozens of politicians, public servants and businesspeople.

One case over \$1 million in purported illicit campaign financing allegedly received by Morales remains pending. The president denies wrongdoing.

Multiple legal appeals have been filed with Guatemala's Constitutional Court seeking to overturn the order barring Velasquez from entering the country. □

LOCAL



Meet Our New Columnist

ORANJESTAD — Thaïs G. Franken is a Master Student at the University of Maastricht in The Netherlands and Graduate School of Governance | UNI-MERIT. Aruba Today met this remarkable young lady during an interview for our newspaper. Her ambitions, her drive, her passion and her happy forthcoming made a big impression and out of this came the mutual desire to work together. Aruba Today is more than happy to announce Thaïs as our new columnist. Her column *Creative Islander* will appear every two weeks on Thursday in Aruba. Welcome to the club Thaïs.

Biography – Currently, Thaïs Franken is a 22-year-old Aruban student at the University of Maastricht (UM). She is studying a Master of Science in Public Policy and Human Development in collaboration with the United Nations University (UNU). Back home, on the beautiful island of Aruba she completed her Bachelor of Arts in Organization, Governance & Management (OGM) at the University of Aruba (UA). She successfully graduated and defended her thesis titled “Placing Culture and Creativity at the Heart of the Aruban Sustainable Development” on July 6th 2018. Thaïs is very passionate about topics such as sustainability, innovation, culture and creativity. Next to her academic interests, she enjoys reading, writing, dancing and cooking.

Cultural & Creative Industries, a bit of the old and new

Culture for many people is the summary of their being. For others, it might be a form of expression or simply a framework for belonging. No matter the depth or the width, culture seems

to speak its own language. Now, how does this evolve as time goes by? Does culture mean the same for all groups of people? Is culture important within a society? Should creativity be encouraged? Can this contribute to a country's economic development?

Aruba for years has been an island focused on generating economic growth in sectors such as the tourism industry and the oil industry. Seeing the current times, it has become clear that other industries should be explored and considered. With the need for economic diversification in Aruba, in 2016 the government has indicated the Cultural and Creative Industry (CCI) as a potential industry within Aruba's vision of developing a knowledge economy. CCI refers to sectors of organized activity whose principal purpose is the production or reproduction, promotion, distribution and/or commercialization of goods, services and activities of a cultural, creative, artistic or heritage-related nature.

Considering the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations, Aruba as part of the Dutch Kingdom signed a treaty to be committed to the development of these goals. These goals consist of 17 goals covering development areas such as poverty, healthcare, quality of education, gender equality, clean water and sanitation, clean energy, economic growth, innovation and infrastructure, reduced inequalities, sustainable cities, responsible consumption, climate action, life below water, life on land, peace and strong institutions and partnerships.

The Cultural and Creative Industries is an inclusive look towards preserving

heritage and innovating for the future. Aruba is rich in culture, history, tangible heritage, intangible heritage and creativity. From the old traditions that run through traditional folk music, dance, architecture, culinary, craft and literacy. Aruba knows tremendous cultural expression such as the carnival, where creativity is put on blast. As new generations are being raised, from the old traditions, new variants are formed.

In these illustrations, we can see distinct differences related to tradition and innovation. The Nicolas Store, built in 1940 is a tangible heritage site of Aruba that is now owned by the Monuments Fund of Aruba. This building now restored functions as the community museum in San Nicolas. This building consisted only of the ground floor and served as a store where they sold books, instruments, newspapers, gifts and many more. Later the first floor was constructed and became the house where the owner lived with its family.

Another Example is the beautiful evolvement of carnival on the island. In the illustrations, it is clear that there has been drastic changes from then to now. This evolvement is due to many things, but the most relevant is the development of creativity and the use of cultural fusion. From the costumes, the music, the road pieces, the headpieces, the designs, the dancing, the singing, the performing, the festivals, Aruba displays all things culture and creativity.

So please join me in this journey of uncovering Aruba's CCI. Through the *Creative Islander* we will explore how the cultural and creative industries could



potentially impact the economic, cultural and social development of the island. The place where creativity and culture meets and co-exists. Besides focusing on the Aruban context, we will explore how other coun-

tries are developing within this industry and how it has impacted the development of their country. Stay up to date with the *Creative Islander*, the moment for all thing culture and creativity. □



OOHHH YESSSS! Aruba's 7th Restaurant Week is prolonged through September 9!



ORANJESTAD — We have good news for you! Due to overwhelming success it was decided to prolong the Restaurant Week at the nine Aruba Wine and Dine restaurants through Sunday, September 9! The Restaurant Week is a true treat for Aruba's adventurous diners, who will be able to take advantage of the super deal at the fabulous Aruba Wine and Dine (AWD) restaurants.

The restaurants are all different, each of them unique in its own way. Tango Argentine Grill, Café the Plaza, Fishes & More, MooMba Beach, Salt & Pepper, Que Pasa, Dragonfly, Nos Clubhuis and Hadicurari continue to be ready to receive you. The Restaurant Week entails that guests can eat a three-course culinary dinner for a good price. The chefs of all nine restaurants

are standing ready to present their menus, hoping to attract the most discerning diners to their restaurants. The beverage partners will be offering great deals on wine and beer: Ravenswood, Stemmari, Torresella, 19 Crimes and Balashi beer.

Part of the Restaurant Week's profits will go to Maris Stella, the home of Aruba's elderly. It is just one more reason to go out to dinner during this super special week. If possible, make your reservations in advance – this will get you the best seats in the house if you specify what you are looking for.

The seventh Restaurant Week is a showcase for all the Aruba Wine and Dine restaurants – the chefs will be creating something truly delicious for you! ☐

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Aruba Has Talent

Saturday at 8:00pm

Violin Night

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Noche Latina

Sunday at 8:00pm

Aruba Has Talent

Thursday at 8:00pm

Circus Night

Every night at 7:30pm 8:30pm 9:30pm

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Honoring loyal and friendly visitors

PALM BEACH — Recently, Emely Ridderstaat of Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure to honor Loyal and Friendly visitors of Aruba as Distinguished Visitors. The symbolic honorary title is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, Transportation, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba between 10-20 and more consecutive years.

The Honorees are Mr & Mrs Schare, who have been coming to Aruba for 18 consecutive years and are staying at the Aruba Marriott Ocean Club. The honorees love the island very much, the sun, food and specially the kindness of its people.

Emely Ridderstaat together with representatives of Aruba Marriott Ocean Club presented the certificate to the honorees and handed over some presents to them and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their vacation destination and as their home away from home for so many years. □



Renaissance Convention Center presents "Christmas Memories" a theme that will surely fill your heart

ORANJESTAD — Last Friday the Renaissance Convention Center (RCC) presented its Christmas Pre-Launching event in a unique and unforgettable way. Just like the years before, many business owners and their representatives were invited to receive a first glimpse and experience what the Renaissance Convention Center has to offer for the upcoming Christmas season.

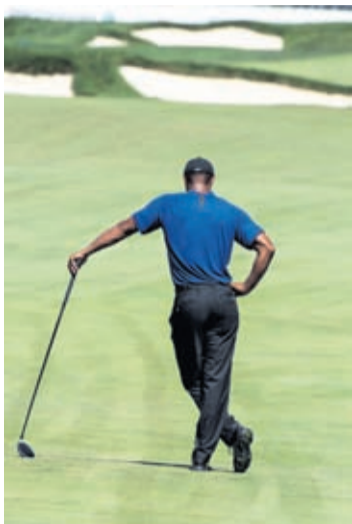
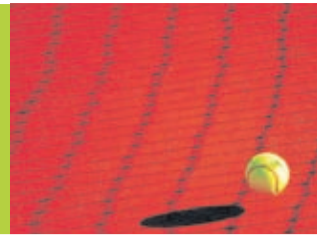
"An impressive view..." were the first reactions. This year the focus was on the theme "Christmas Memories". The idea behind this year's theme is to give the opportunity to all visitors, to take pictures at the different photo-booths that there will be in each corner of the RCC. This way unforgettable memories will be created. Each photo-booth is special and spectacular. In one corner there is a "photo-frame" of almost 3 meters high and in another corner there is a "Christmas Crown" that's also of the same height with beautiful and elegant decoration from E2 Events. This year the RCC will primarily use the colors white, black and red and the room will be highlighted with gold and silver touches.

Just like every year the culinary team of the Renaissance Aruba put together a menu that will make sure all guests, companies and families enjoy. Last Friday a huge variety of Christmas dishes were presented. This year just like every other year, there will be the usual packages that include food and drink and there is also the option of designing special packages depending on the amount of people that will be accommodated in the RCC. It is known that every "Christmas Event" at the RCC has a special touch.

For more information regarding menu's and reservations you can contact the RCC via mail at mmtheijsen@arubarenaissance.com or sfortin@arubarenaissance.com and you can also call at 5236404. □



SPORTS



Tiger Woods waits for his turn hit on the ninth hole during a practice round for the BMW championship golf tournament at the Aronimink Golf Club in Newtown Square, Pa., Tuesday, Sept. 4, 2018.

Associated Press

Jordan Spieth looking to avoid an extra week off

NEWTOWN SQUARE, Pa. (AP) — Easily overlooked in golf this week is that other "cup," the one more about finances than flags.

Jordan Spieth sure hasn't forgotten about the FedEx Cup.

One year after he was in the mix for the \$10 million bonus until the final hour at East Lake in Atlanta, Spieth is simply trying to make sure he has a tee time at the Tour Championship. He is No. 27 in the FedEx Cup, and only the top 30 move on to the finale in two weeks.

"Each year you pick a schedule, and I have essentially assumed — based on the previous years — that would be part of it, and have a chance to win the FedEx Cup," Spieth said Wednesday at the BMW Championship.

Continued on Next Page

POWER PLAY



Osaka powers into U.S. Open semis by routing Tsurenko

Naomi Osaka, of Japan, waves to fans after defeating Lesia Tsurenko, of Ukraine, during the quarterfinals of the U.S. Open tennis tournament, Wednesday, Sept. 5, 2018, in New York.

Associated Press
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JORDAN SPIETH

Continued from Previous Page

"Each year, I've had an opportunity to win the FedEx Cup at the end of the year. This year, at this current state, I'm in a more difficult position to win the FedEx Cup than I've been in the last five years."

He's still inside the top 30 from the 70-man field at Aronimink who hope to advance to East Lake. Spieth figures he only needs a "normal" week in the third FedEx Cup playoff event, which starts Thursday.

A year ago, Louis Oosthuizen came into the BMW Championship at No. 24 and missed out on the Tour Championship by one point. The highest-seeded player who didn't advance was Rickie Fowler in 2016, when he was No. 22 and missed by 0.57 points.

So for Spieth, there is work to be done.

And it's not just the mathematical shot at the \$10 million bonus, or even pride to not be left out of the Tour Championship for the first time since turning pro.

The PGA Tour has a policy that requires its members to play in a minimum of 25 tournaments. If they fall short of that, players have to add a tournament they have not played in four years. Because he added nothing new to his schedule this year, Spieth has to reach 25 events. And the only way to reach 25 events (the Ryder Cup counts) is to make it to the Tour Championship.



Jordan Spieth tees off on the tenth hole during the first round of the Dell Technologies Championship golf tournament at TPC Boston in Norton, Mass., Friday, Aug. 31, 2018.

Associated Press

The policy is in its second year, and no one has violated it yet.

Also on the bubble are Tiger Woods and Rickie Fowler. Woods has finished out of the top 20 in both playoff events and has dropped five spots to No. 25, needing to play well to avoid missing the Tour Championship for the first time when playing a full schedule. Fowler missed the first two events with an injury and is No. 26.

As for that other cup?

U.S. captain Jim Furyk announced three of his four

picks for the Ryder Cup on Tuesday evening: Woods, Phil Mickelson and Bryson DeChambeau. And then on Wednesday, European captain Thomas Bjorn picked Paul Casey, Ian Poulter, Henrik Stenson and Sergio Garcia.

All of them except Garcia, who didn't qualify for the playoffs, are at Aronimink. And then there's Tony Finau, who has played so well the last two weeks that he is No. 4 in the FedEx Cup. He goes into the BMW Championship trying to nail down one of the top five seeds

for East Lake because those players only have to win the Tour Championship to claim the richest prize in golf.

He also wants to be No. 12 — the final member of the U.S. team that Furyk will announce Monday.

Finau is the leading choice as the final pick, mainly because he trails only world No. 1 Dustin Johnson for the most top 10s this year, and because no other candidates have stood out over the last few months.

"I just continue to approach it the way I have the last couple weeks, and that's winning the FedEx Cup. Seems to have worked the last couple weeks for me," said Finau, who was runner-up in The Northern Trust and tied for fourth in the Dell Technologies Championship.

Twenty-two players in the 70-man field could be in the Ryder Cup. All of them could be in the running for the FedEx Cup, and no one knows that better than Rory McIlroy.

He skipped the opening playoff event, struggled finishing off rounds last week at the TPC Boston to tie for 12th, and comes into the BMW Championship at No. 24. Two years ago, McIlroy was having a mediocre year by his standards when

he won the second playoff event and the Tour Championship and walked off the big winner.

"It turns a sort of average season into a great season," he said.

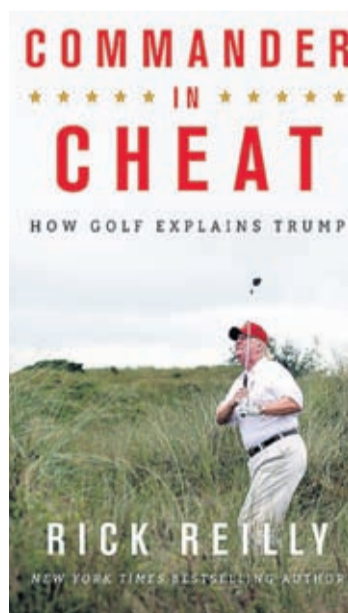
No one has less at stake than DeChambeau, who won the last two weeks and is assured of being the No. 1 seed at the Tour Championship. □

Upcoming book assails Donald Trump's 'ethics deficit' in golf

NEW YORK (AP) — The next book to take on President Donald Trump isn't focused on Russia or tax policy. It's about his golf game. Hachette Books announced Wednesday that Rick Reilly's "Commander in Cheat: How Golf Explains Trump" will come out next May. Hachette is calling the book a close study of Trump's "ethics deficit" on the course and what it says about him as a leader. Reil-

ly is a longtime contributor to Sports Illustrated and CNN. He's basing his book on firsthand observations, along with interviews with everyone from golfing partners to caddies.

Reilly has written about Trump and golf before, notably in his 2003 publication, "Who's Your Caddy?: Looping for the Great, Near Great, and Reprobrates of Golf." □



This cover image released by Hachette Books shows "Commander In Cheat: How Golf Explains Trump," by Rick Reilly. Associated Press



Nick Foles ready to lead Eagles again with Wentz still out

By ROB MAADDI

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A rough preseason had people doubting Nick Foles again.

The Super Bowl MVP is used to criticism and he's ready to lead the defending champion Philadelphia Eagles in the season opener against the Atlanta Falcons on Thursday night.

Foles was the toast of the town after spectacular performances in the NFC championship game against Minnesota and the Super Bowl victory over New England. But he didn't lead the offense to any points on 14 drives in two preseason games, threw two interceptions, lost two fumbles and got sacked six times, including a safety.

"I went out there and played," Foles said Tuesday. "I made mistakes. I did good things. I grew as a player. That's important. I wasn't trying to play it safe and with that you are go-

ing to make mistakes. Obviously, it isn't fun, but you get to watch film and deal with the emotions of throwing a pick, having a strip-sack, and I dealt with it in the preseason and keep learning from it and move forward."

Foles replaced Carson Wentz after the franchise quarterback tore two knee ligaments in Week 14 last season. He rallied the Eagles to a victory over the Los Angeles Rams to clinch the NFC East and played well in his first five quarters. He struggled in the next five and some critics suggested Foles should be benched for Nate Sudfeld for the division playoff game against Atlanta. Coach Doug Pederson never lost confidence in Foles, and it paid off when he helped the Eagles win their first NFL title since 1960.

Foles had a 115.7 passer rating, completed 72.6 percent of his passes and

threw for 971 yards, six TDs and one interception in the playoffs.

Which version of Foles will show up this week?

"I think everyone tries to figure out sports. Sports, you never know," Foles said. "You go out there and play, you give everything you have. I think there's plenty of games that are middle ground that I've played."

"Now my middle ground is if I throw one touchdown, no interceptions, it's a bad game. I've set that bar high. I know that because I expect more for myself. What is a middle ground game? We're going to be analyzed as players but I know as a player, you can be hard on yourself, but you have to learn from your mistakes and for me, I know by the week of preparation, but you never really know until you get in the game."

Foles wasn't officially named the starter until



In this Aug. 23, 2018, file photo, Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Nick Foles throws during the first half of an NFL preseason football game against the Cleveland Browns, in Cleveland.

Associated Press

Monday, though it was obvious Wentz wasn't going to be ready to play. Wentz still hasn't been medically cleared.

"The more I play, the more I'll get in a rhythm," Foles said.

NOTES: The Eagles signed

WR Markus Wheaton and placed TE Richard Rodgers (knee) on injured reserve. Wheaton was released on Saturday but was quickly brought back. LB Joe Walker was signed to the practice squad and LB Asantay Brown was released. □

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Nishikori outlasts Cilic, joins Osaka in U.S. Open semifinals

By BRIAN MAHONEY

AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Kei Nishikori rallied to outlast Marin Cilic on Wednesday at the U.S. Open, giving Japan a men's and women's semifinalist at the same Grand Slam for the first time, according to the ATP Tour. Nishikori won the rematch of the 2014 final with a 2-6, 6-4, 7-6 (5), 4-6, 6-4 victory in a match that lasted 4 hours, 8 minutes.

In the match before Nishikori's, Naomi Osaka moved into her first Grand Slam semifinal by routing Lesia Tsurenko 6-1, 6-1.

Only once in the professional era that began in 1968 had Japan had a men's and women's player in the quarterfinals at the same tournament. That was at Wimbledon in 1995, and both Shuzo Matsuoka and Kimiko Date lost in that round.

The seventh-seeded Cilic won the 2014 final in straight sets for his only career major title. Nishikori said this week that he was nervous once that match began, but this one was nothing like that day.

Instead, it resembled their 2010 second-round match in Flushing Meadows, when Nishikori rallied to win in five sets in 4:59, the fifth-longest men's singles match by time in U.S. Open history.

Each man blew chances to gain control and perhaps have a much quicker ending to a match that had wild swings of momentum. Cilic appeared to be coasting after taking the first set and opening a 4-2 lead in the second. The Croatian then had the lead in the third-set tiebreaker until double-faulting on consecutive serves.

After Cilic evened the match by taking the fourth following a 10-minute break for heat, Nishikori was on the verge with running away with the fifth, holding a break point for a 5-1 lead. Instead, Cilic held and then broke Nishikori on his way to evening the set at 4-all, but then Nishikori took the final two games.

The No. 21 seed continued his strong season after re-

turning from a wrist injury that forced him to miss the U.S. Open last year and will play either No. 6 seed Novak Djokovic or unseeded John Millman on Friday.

"I wish I don't go to five sets every time," Nishikori said. Osaka had it much easier, continuing what's been a largely dominant run through the draw by winning in just 57 minutes, the third time in her five matches she didn't even have to play an hour.

The No. 20 seed moved from Japan to New York at age 3, and her deepest major run is coming at the same tournament she first visited as a child.

"Well, it definitely means a lot for me, and I always thought if I were to win a Grand Slam, the first one I'd want to win is the US Open, because I have grown up here and, like, then my grandparents can come and watch," she said. "I think it would be really cool."

She raced to a 3-0 lead in the first set and then 4-0 in the second against the shaky Tsurenko, who finished with more unforced errors than points in her first major quarterfinal.

Osaka will face either 14th-seeded Madison Keys or No. 30 Carla Suarez Navarro in the first major semifinal appearance for a Japanese woman since Date reached the final four at Wimbledon in 1996.

The 20-year-old said she was nervous, claiming to be "freaking out inside" — though it certainly never showed.

"Just like my entire body was shaking, so I'm really glad I was able to play well today," she said.

She won 59 points to just 28 for the unseeded Ukrainian, who knocked off No. 2 seed Caroline Wozniacki in the second round.

But Tsurenko said she was sick Wednesday, waking up with a sore throat and not breathing well.

"Unfortunately during this tournament I had many issues with my health, and today was not my day obviously. I was not feeling well," she said.



Naomi Osaka, of Japan, returns a shot to Lesia Tsurenko, of Ukraine, during the quarterfinals of the U.S. Open tennis tournament, Wednesday, Sept. 5, 2018, in New York.

Associated Press

Osaka had consecutive 50-minute matches earlier in the tournament, including a 6-0, 6-0 thrashing of Aliaksandra Sasnovich in the third round.

She was finally tested in the round of 16, edging past No. 26 Aryna Sabalenka 6-3, 2-6, 6-4 in a little more than 2 hours, but she was back in complete control against Tsurenko, winning 20 of 22 points (91 percent) on her first serve.

Tsurenko labored in the heat during her fourth-round victory over Marketa Vondrousova, having her temperature and blood checked during a medical timeout in the first set and nearly quitting when she trailed early in the second. She recovered to win in three sets, with her opponent accusing her of acting after the match.

It was another hot afternoon Wednesday, with temperatures in the high-80s (30s Celsius) but feeling some 10 degrees hotter with the humidity.

Tsurenko didn't appear bothered by the conditions, but whether it was her health or just first-time jitters, she was off from the minute she stepped onto Arthur Ashe Stadium.

She pushed some balls a few feet past the baseline,

often failing to make Osaka do anything special to win a point and finishing with 31 unforced errors.

"I hate matches like this,"

Tsurenko said. "I didn't want to show this kind of game in front of this big crowd, but unfortunately I'm just not able to play now." □

Former world half marathon champion Paul Koech dies at 49

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — Paul Koech, a former world half marathon champion and long-time teammate of Kenyan great Paul Tergat, has died.

He was 49.

The Kenyan track and field federation said Wednesday that Koech died Monday after a short illness. The federation did not release any more details.

"Paul was a great track, cross-country and road-racing athlete," Athletics Kenya said.

Koech won the world half marathon championship in Zurich in 1998. At the 1996 Atlanta Olympics, he finished sixth in the 10,000 meters and the following year was fourth at the world championships. Tergat won silver in both of those races.

In 1997, Koech ran the third-

fastest 10,000 in history, finishing second behind Tergat as his friend broke the world record in the event. The IAAF said it was "deeply saddened" to hear of Koech's death.

Koech was a major in the Kenyan armed forces and a member of the Athletics Kenya executive committee at the time of his death. Tergat, now head of the Kenyan Olympic committee, said Koech was highly patriotic and hard working. "It's beyond belief he is no longer with us," Tergat said. "This was a very good friend of mine and not only did we represent the country together but he believed entirely in national duty."

"He was someone who was a refined officer. He was firm, never believed in any short cuts ... this is very painful." □

Yankees homer twice late to beat Athletics 5-1

By The Associated Press
OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Luke Voit hit a tiebreaking homer leading off the eighth inning, Adeiny Hechavarria also went deep and New York beat Oakland.

Brett Gardner singled twice and scored a pair of runs for the Yankees. Aaron Hicks added two RBIs.

The Yankees didn't have a baserunner until the fifth inning and didn't get their first hit until the sixth. But they scored late off the normally reliable A's bullpen to even a series between the top two teams in the AL wild-card race.

New York increased its lead over Oakland to 4½ games for the first wild card.

Four pitchers combined on a two-hitter for the Yankees. David Robertson (8-3) retired three batters to earn the win.

Voit connected off Fernando Rodney (4-3) for his seventh home run in 12 games. Hicks, who drew a bases-loaded walk to tie the game in the seventh, added a two-out RBI single later in the eighth.

Hechavarria homered in the ninth, his first with the Yankees after being acquired from Pittsburgh last week.

Stephen Piscotty hit his 22nd home run for Oakland.

ORIOLES 5, MARINERS 3

SEATTLE (AP) — A rough day for the Seattle Mariners that began with a clubhouse brawl ended with Baltimore rookie Renato Nunez and the Orioles rallying to win.

Mariners shortstop Jean Segura and teammate Dee Gordon tangled, while catcher Mike Zunino and others tried to break it up. The skirmish occurred four hours before the game at Safeco Field. Moments after Gordon politely asked reporters to leave the locker room, the double doors burst open with players shoving and shouting.

The Orioles had 15 hits and

scored all five runs in the final three innings. Nunez had three hits, including a home run off Adam Warren (2-2) to start a four-run seventh.

Mariners starter Wade LeBlanc pitched six shutout innings, but the Orioles got five hits off three relievers in the seventh to take a 4-1 lead.

Alex Cobb (5-15) gave up a homer to Robinson Cano in the first before shutting out the Mariners for the next five innings. Mychal Givens earned his sixth save.

ASTROS 5, TWINS 2

HOUSTON (AP) — Alex Bregman hit three doubles and Yuli Gurriel homered for the second game in a row, leading Justin Verlander and Houston to its fourth straight win.

Verlander (14-9) yielded one run and three hits while fanning eight over seven innings. Roberto Osuna got his 13th save.

Gurriel's homer capped a four-run first off Trevor May (3-1).

Minnesota designated hitter Miguel Sano was carted off the field in the second after injuring his surgically repaired left leg sliding into second base. He was listed as day-to-day.

TIGERS 8, WHITE SOX 3

CHICAGO (AP) — A fan was hit in the face by a foul ball and bled profusely before walking to the first aid station, causing a brief delay during Detroit's win.

The middle-aged male fan was sitting in the first row on the first base side of Guaranteed Rate Field — well beyond where the netting extends to end of the dugout — when he was struck by Jeimer Candelario's foul leading off the Tigers ninth. The game was held up for a couple minutes while he was treated, and the man eventually walked away under his own power, escorted by stadium personnel.

Francisco Liriano (4-9) had



New York Yankees' Luke Voit celebrates after hitting a home run off Oakland Athletics' Fernando Rodney during the eighth inning of a baseball game Tuesday, Sept. 4, 2018, in Oakland, Calif.

Associated Press

been 0-8 since late April. Lucas Giolito (10-10) gave up four earned runs in 1 1/3 innings.

INDIANS 9, ROYALS 3

CLEVELAND (AP) — Mike Clevinger struck out 10, Francisco Lindor hit another leadoff homer and Cleveland ended a three-game losing streak.

Clevinger (11-7) allowed just three hits in six innings and remained unbeaten in his last seven starts.

Kansas City had its season-high winning streak stopped at six, and lost starting pitcher Danny Duffy and rookie right fielder Brett Phillips to injuries.

Following the game, Duffy said his season is over. He's been sidelined this year with shoulder issues. Phillips bruised his right shoulder

crashed into the wall chasing a flyball.

RANGERS 4, ANGELS 2

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Adrian Beltre and Elvis Andrus each hit solo home runs in the fourth inning to lead Texas.

Andrus hit the first pitch of the fourth against Andrew Heaney (8-9) to tie it at 1. Two batters later, Beltre went deep for the ninth time this season and 471st time in his career.

Shohei Ohtani hit his 16th homer for Los Angeles, a leadoff shot in the sixth that chased Texas starter Mike Minor (11-7). It was Ohtani's first major league homer off a left-handed pitcher.

Jose Leclerc struck out two in a perfect ninth for his ninth save.

RAYS 4, BLUE JAYS 0

TORONTO (AP) — Ryne Stanek became the first rookie pitcher in 75 years to start consecutive games and combined with six relievers on a three-hitter as Tampa Bay won its fourth in a row.

A night after throwing one inning and 16 pitches, Stanek worked one inning. He became first rookie to start back-to-back games since the St. Louis Cardinals' Red Munger got one out in a loss to Philadelphia on July 28, 1943, then pitched a complete-game victory over the Phillies the following day, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

Hunter Wood (1-1) pitched two hitless innings and Sergio Romo got his 19th save. Rookie Ryan Borucki (3-4) took the loss. □

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Red Sox beat Braves in matchup of division leaders

By The Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Steve Pearce had three hits and three RBIs, Rick Porcello allowed two hits in five innings and the Boston Red Sox beat the Atlanta Braves 5-1 on Tuesday night for their second straight win in a matchup of division leaders.

Porcello (16-7) gave up one run and struck out five, improving to 10-3 on the road this year. He had been 0-2 in his previous three starts overall since an Aug. 14 win at Philadelphia.

Atlanta pitchers walked nine, including five by starter Sean Newcomb (11-8), who matched his season high. He allowed three runs and four hits in 4 1/3 innings. The Braves' lead over second-place Philadelphia in the NL East was cut to three games.

Kurt Suzuki homered for the Braves.

BREWERS 11, CUBS 1

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Lorenzo Cain reached base five times, Wade Miley pitched six stingy innings and Milwaukee romped past Chicago to climb within three games of the NL Central leaders.

Miley (3-2) allowed one run and three hits, struck out five and walked none as Milwaukee won for the fifth time in its last six meetings with its division rival. The second-place Brewers maintained a 1 1/2-game lead over St. Louis for the top NL wild card.

Mike Montgomery (4-5) struggled with his control for four innings, and the Brewers had little trouble with a succession of Cubs relievers.

Cain had four walks and a double from the lead-off spot. Christian Yelich walked and added a two-run double in the seventh. The first-place Cubs committed two errors. First baseman Anthony Rizzo left the game with a bruised right foot.

DODGERS 11, METS 4

LOS ANGELES (AP) — David Freese hit his first homer with his new club and Rich Hill rebounded from a sluggish start on the mound as Los Angeles erased an ear-



Atlanta Braves center fielder Ender Inciarte dives for but can't catch a ball hit for a double by Boston Red Sox's Jackie Bradley Jr. during the ninth inning of baseball game Tuesday, Sept. 4, 2018, in Atlanta. Boston won 5-1.

Associated Press

ly four-run deficit to defeat New York.

Austin Barnes also homered for the Dodgers, who remained a half-game behind first-place Colorado in the NL West. The teams meet this weekend for three games at Coors Field. Jay Bruce and Michael Conforto each hit a two-run homer off Hill (7-5), who recovered to pitch six innings.

The Dodgers broke open the game with six runs in the seventh. Yasmani Grandal capped the outburst with a two-run double.

Mets starter Jason Vargas (5-9) gave up five runs — four earned — over 3 1/3 innings.

CARDINALS 11, NATIONALS 8

WASHINGTON (AP) — Yadier Molina hit a grand slam, Marcell Ozuna homered twice and St. Louis defeated Washington.

Molina provided a cushion for the Cardinals with his sixth career slam, which made it 11-5 in the ninth inning. St. Louis hit five hom-

ers overall in stopping a three-game skid.

Right fielder Yairo Munoz robbed Ryan Zimmerman of a three-run homer in the bottom of the ninth, reaching over the fence and pulling the ball back into the field of play for a two-run double.

Tyson Ross (8-9) pitched 1 1/3 innings for the win and Jordan Hicks got the final out for his sixth save.

Ozuna and Paul DeJong homered back-to-back to start the sixth, breaking a 4-all tie. One out later, Patrick Wisdom went deep to make it 7-4.

Making his second major league appearance, reliever Austen Williams (0-1) gave up all three homers. He allowed none in 68 innings this season in Double-A and Triple-A.

The 4-hour, 10-minute game included 16 walks and 20 strikeouts.

ROCKIES 6, GIANTS 2

DENVER (AP) — Ryan McMahon had a pinch-hit home run and Carlos Gonzalez tripled with the bases

loaded during a five-run seventh inning that carried Colorado past San Francisco.

David Dahl also homered and Charlie Blackmon had three hits for the Rockies, who lead the NL West in September or October for the first time since 1995. It was the fourth straight loss for the Giants, who also have dropped six in a row to Colorado.

Rockies starter German Marquez struck out 11 over 6 2/3 innings. Gorkys Hernandez snapped a 1-all tie with a home run in the seventh for the Giants.

Chris Rusin (2-2) got the win. Reyes Moronta (5-2) took the loss.

DIAMONDBACKS 6, PADRES 0

PHOENIX (AP) — Robbie Ray struck out 10 and pitched two-hit ball for 6 1/3 innings as Arizona blanked San Diego to end a four-game losing streak.

The Diamondbacks' skid had knocked them out of first place in the NL West.

Ray (5-2) got his first win at

Chase Field since March 30, his first game of 2018 — he'd been 0-1 in his previous six starts at home. He won back-to-back starts for the first time since last September.

Joey Lucchesi (7-8) gave up two runs and three hits in five innings. He's winless in five career starts against Arizona. Nick Ahmed hit an RBI triple and scored on Ketel Marte's sacrifice fly for a 2-0 lead in the second.

PHILLIES 9, MARLINS 4

MIAMI (AP) — Carlos Santana homered to start a four-run first inning and Philadelphia snapped a three-game losing streak by beating Miami.

Jake Arrieta (10-9) struck out a season-high 11 and earned his first win since July 31. He allowed four runs in 7 1/3 innings and improved to 5-1 in eight career starts against the Marlins.

The Phillies moved within three games of first-place Atlanta in the NL East. They have a chance to win a series for the first time in a month Wednesday.

J.T. Realmuto hit two solo homers off Arrieta, increasing his season total to 20.

Asdrubal Cabrera drove in three runs with his 23rd homer and a double for the Phillies. Santana knocked in two runs and scored twice, and Cesar Hernandez hit a bases-loaded triple. The Phillies had totaled five runs in their previous four games.

Marlins starter Trevor Richards (3-8) lasted only 1 1/3 innings in his shortest outing yet. The rookie remained winless since July 14.

PIRATES 7, REDS 3

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Starling Marte hit a two-run homer, Gregory Polanco had a two-run double and Pittsburgh topped Cincinnati.

Joe Musgrove (6-8) took a shutout into the seventh inning for the Pirates, who improved to 12-4 against the Reds this season. Scooter Gennett homered twice for Cincinnati. Cody Reed (0-2) permitted six runs and nine hits in a season-high five innings. The top four batters in Pittsburgh's lineup went a combined 8 for 17 and drove in five runs. □

Lloyd scores twice, U.S. women beat Chile 4-0

By JANIE McCAULEY

AP Sports Writer

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — The Americans scored goals in so many ways over the past week. Now it's time to do it on the big stage of World Cup qualifying.

Carli Lloyd entered in the second half and immediately scored on a diving header before scoring again in the 93rd minute after a dazzling dribbling sequence for her 102nd career goal, and the U.S. women's national team ran its unbeaten streak to 21 matches by beating Chile 4-0 on Tuesday night in the second exhibition between the countries in five days.

"I think Chile was a good opponent for us going into the CONCACAF qualifying. I think that they're pretty similar to the teams that we're now going to face that we know of," Lloyd said. "So two good matches, a lot of players got time, we scored some great goals. I think we can go into qualifying confident and ready."

Tobin Heath scored a goal and assisted on two others as U.S. coach Jill Ellis used the friendlies against Chile to mix and match with a variety of veterans and young players. Mallory Pugh scored in the



United States' Tobin Heath, bottom, scores a goal in front of Chile's Geraldine Leyton during the first half of an international friendly soccer match in San Jose, Calif., Tuesday, Sept. 4, 2018.

Associated Press

34th minute on a pass from Heath before Heath scored her 21st career goal four minutes later.

Lloyd headed in a goal from just outside the 6-yard box in the 47th minute off Heath's free kick. With her 101st goal for the national team, Lloyd moved into fifth place on the Americans' all-time list, passing Tiffeny Milbrett.

"She came in and was a game-changer," said El-

lis, who was thrilled to see a balanced effort by her players as "we shared the load, which was important to me."

Pugh got the Americans on the board with her 12th career goal in a whirlwind sequence after Alex Morgan's penalty kick was stopped by Chilean goalkeeper Christiane Endler. The ball deflected to Endler's right, where Heath secured it and crossed as

Pugh scored from a couple of yards out. Chile defender Camila Saez tackled Pugh for the penalty kick. Tierna Davidson, a 19-year-old star from the Bay Area who is a junior playing at Stanford, assisted on Heath's goal after scoring her first career goal in a 3-0 win against Chile on Friday night at Carson, California, in her 11th appearance with the national team.

This was the Americans' fi-

nal tuneup ahead of the start of World Cup qualifying next month and drew a crowd of 14,340. These were the first two matchups between Chile and the U.S. The Americans had another first-half chance in the ninth minute, when Morgan's cross to Pugh led to a one-touch shot from a few yards out that sailed high over the crossbar.

U.S. midfielder McCall Zerboni went down in the opening minute with a left elbow injury and trainers took her off the field before she was replaced by Morgan Brian in the fifth minute. Zerboni will be re-evaluated soon.

The U.S. team played again without midfielder Megan Rapinoe, who is nursing a rib injury but is expected to be healthy for World Cup qualifying. Rapinoe has worked to raise more than \$150,000 to aid victims of the devastating Carr Fire in her native Redding, California, area, and at least 65 people from Redding attended the game in a joint effort with U.S. Soccer and the Shasta Regional Community Foundation, which organized buses to transport the fans.

"It's so great, it's amazing," Rapinoe said. □

De Marchi wins longest stage of Spanish Vuelta

LUINTRA, Spain (AP) — Alessandro De Marchi broke away with five kilometers (3.1 miles) left to win the longest stage of the Spanish Vuelta on Wednesday, while Simon Yates kept his slim lead over Alejandro Valverde in the overall standings.

De Marchi was in a group of 19 riders who escaped from the peloton about halfway into the 207.8-kilometer (129.1-mile) 11th stage in northwestern Spain. He then jumped into a solo lead in heavy rain on the final climb to secure his third career stage victory in the Vuelta.

"This victory is special. I had been chasing it for quite some time," De Marchi

said. "Sometimes you feel like you've lost it.

Now I feel like I'm back at my best."

The BMC Racing Team rider, who had also won stages in this year's Tour de Suisse and the Volta a la Comunitat Valenciana, was 28 seconds ahead of Jhonatan Restrepo, and nearly a minute in front of third-place Franco Pellizotti.

"I knew there was this uphill section. I only had one shot, the legs were empty. It was all in the mind," the 32-year-old Italian rider said. "Now I can take it a bit easier in the peloton in the next few days and I want to try again in the last week, but I'll be more

relaxed."

There was little change overall, with Yates staying one second ahead of Valverde and 14 in front of Nairo Quintana.

"I never thought I would lose the red jersey," Yates said. "The first 100 kilometers (62.1 miles) were very intense and chaotic. We expected a lot of attacks ... we had to take some risks and in the end I'm still in the red. The legs felt good, without any problem, and now I'm looking forward to the real mountain stages."

Thursday's 12th stage will be a hilly 181.1-kilometer (112.5-mile) route from Mondonedo to Estaca de Bares, the northernmost point in Spain. □



In this Saturday, Sept. 5, 2015 file photo, BMC's Alessandro De Marchi of Italy, celebrates after winning the 14th stage between Vitoria and Alto Campoo Fuente del Chivo, 215 kilometers (133 miles), of the Spanish Vuelta cycling race that finishes in Alto Campoo, northern Spain.

Associated Press

AP EXPLAINS: What is shadow banning?

By BARBARA ORTUTAY

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The sinister-sounding term "shadow banning" has been in play recently, mostly thanks to conservatives — including President Donald Trump — accusing Twitter and other technology companies of political bias.

"Twitter 'SHADOW BANNING' prominent Republicans. Not good. We will look into this discriminatory and illegal practice at once! Many complaints," the president tweeted on July 26. (His tweet was not accurate.)

Here's a look at shadow banning and why it's now a political issue.

HISTORY OF SHADOW BANNING

Shadow bans started in the early days of online discussion groups and the tools used to police disruptive participants. Moderators could always just disable the accounts of spammers, harassers or those who were just too argumentative. But sometimes banned users came back with new accounts, prolonging the turmoil and creating a lengthy round of



In this Feb. 8, 2018, file photo, the logo for Twitter is displayed above a trading post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange.

Associated Press

whack-a-mole.

So forums came up with an alternative punishment: the shadow ban. Instead of disabling the target's account entirely, shadow banning just seals the offending account in a hermetic bubble. The shadow-banned user can still post freely — but no one else sees their messages.

At Reddit, shadow banning

was long the only tool available to moderators. It shuts down spam and, in theory, lets internet trolls stew in their own juices until they get bored and drift away. DOES TWITTER SHADOW BAN USERS?

Twitter says no, although some political conservatives remain unconvinced of that.

In May, Twitter outlined a

new approach intended to reduce the impact of disruptive users, or trolls, by reading "behavioral signals" that tend to indicate when users are more interested in blowing up conversations than in contributing. For instance, Twitter will take note if users sign up for multiple accounts at the same time, or if they repeatedly tweet at or mention ac-

counts that don't follow them.

While accounts flagged this way don't technically violate Twitter policy, the company now wants to protect the "health" of users' online conversations.

(That word is now a staple in the company's lexicon; CEO Jack Dorsey used "health," "healthy" or "unhealthy" 31 times in prepared congressional testimony Tuesday.) So Twitter will reduce their visibility in certain ways, by displaying them less prominently in search results or conversation threads.

That's not actually shadow banning, since these users and their tweets are still visible on Twitter in other ways. Dorsey said in his testimony that "we do not shadow-ban anyone based on political ideology."

WHY PEOPLE ARE TALKING ABOUT SHADOW BANS

Largely because Trump tweeted about them. And for that, we have Vice News to thank.

On July 25, Vice News published a story claiming that Twitter was "limiting the visibility" of prominent Republicans in search results. □



In this June 27, 2018, file photo, Parisa Sadrzadeh, a senior manager of logistics for Amazon.com, opens the door of an Amazon-branded delivery van at the request of a photographer in Seattle, following a media event for Amazon to announce a new program that lets entrepreneurs around the country launch businesses that deliver Amazon packages.

Associated Press

By JOSEPH PISANI

AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Amazon has ordered 20,000 vans for its new delivery program in which contractors around the country can launch

businesses that deliver packages for the online retailer.

The company said Wednesday that it increased its van order from 4,500 after it was surprised by the

Amazon orders 20,000 vans to build delivery fleet

number of applications it received. The vans, which are stamped with Amazon's smile logo in blue, can be used by contractors to deliver packages.

"We have been blown away," said Dave Clark, Amazon's senior vice president of worldwide operations. He said tens of thousands applied, but declined to give a specific number.

The delivery program is part of Amazon's plan to gain more control over how its packages are delivered and rely less on other delivery services, such as UPS, FedEx and the U.S. Postal Service. With these vans on the road, Amazon said

more shoppers would be able to track their packages on a map or see a photo of where a package was left when they weren't home.

Charlie O'Shea, the lead retail analyst at Moody's, said the program can help Amazon expand same-day delivery and compete with brick-and-mortar retailers that have order-online-and-pick-up-in-store services. "This is an area where Amazon needs to up its game a little bit," he said.

Amazon has been working on bolstering its delivery network. It has a fleet of cargo planes called "Prime Air," and it also pays people as much as \$25 an hour to

deliver packages with their cars through Amazon Flex. For its newer delivery program, Amazon started taking applications in June at its website, logistics.amazon.com. Amazon has said existing package delivery businesses could apply, as well as those with little or no logistics experience.

Clark said Amazon-branded vans are already on the road, and he expects thousands of the vans to be delivering packages by the end of the year. He said the full order of 20,000 vans, which will be built at a new Mercedes-Benz plant in North Charleston, South Carolina, should be on the road in the next year. □

Don't go! Surging business sales make staff retention a must

By JOYCE M. ROSENBERG

NEW YORK (AP) — Offers of training and stock in their new employer weren't enough to keep four out of his five staffers when Dennis Chow sold his information technology firm in 2016.

Chow and the buyers learned one of the hard lessons of a business sale — despite their best efforts, some employees will leave. People departed from both companies when SCIS Security acquired Chow's Houston-based Xtec Systems, most of them workers who didn't like their new assignments.

"We lost maybe 25 percent of the overall workforce," Chow says.

As the number of small business sales keeps rising, staff retention is a priority — especially since low unemployment makes it easy for many workers to find new jobs. Transactions tallied by online marketplace BizBuySell.com show more than 2,700 small businesses changed hands during the second quarter, the most since the count began in 2007. The trend is being driven in large part by retiring baby boomer owners.

One big problem can be a culture clash — staffers whose company is sold may be uncomfortable with their new bosses and how the business is now being run. A new owner may be more rigid about schedules or more of a micromanager. Staffers who worked with just a handful of people before might find themselves with dozens of co-workers, and miss the old camaraderie.

Bosses should focus on the quality of employees' work life, says Mike Astringer, owner of Human Capital Consultants, a human resources provider. Money, whether it's in the form of a raise or a bonus, may not work in the long run.

"The new acquirer and the seller need to really collaborate in the transition to make sure the culture not going to change, that the reason people work there is going to continue," he says. Critical to keeping staffers is not springing the ownership



In this Friday, Aug. 17, 2018, photo, John Ahlberg works at his desk in Glen Ellyn, Ill.

Associated Press

change on them at the last minute. That will only anger them and add to their anxiety and temptation to flee, Astringer says.

A new boss should acknowledge and validate staffers' feelings, and not try pep talks to ease anxiety, says John Proctor, CEO of Ottawa, Ontario-based Martello Technologies. The information and communications technology company has made two acquisitions in recent years, giving Proctor experience with persuading reluctant staffers to stay.

"People aren't praying at the altar of Martello. It doesn't work like that," he says.

Proctor's approach is to meet with staffers individually or in small groups, spell out his ideas for the company's direction and ask employees about the roles they see themselves playing. He recommends listening rather than dictating.

"You're giving them a sense

of ownership instead of, 'You're going to be doing this, and you're going to be doing that,'" he says.

Still, Proctor warns owners to expect some friction. "You also need to be realistic that there will be issues and disputes and you must deal with those with an open and frank dialogue with all involved," he says. It can be more difficult to retain staffers in some industries than others. David Crais, chief executive of CMG Carelytics, a health technology development company that has done several acquisitions, has found software engineers reluctant to be part of a company that's growing by buying others.

"Many times, they're driven by wanting to be part of a building process," says Crais. The more an owner can align a staffer's needs with the company's culture, the greater the chances of retaining employees, Crais

says. He considers an acquisition a success if 70 percent to 75 percent of the staff is still there 18 months later.

John Ahlberg, whose technology support and management company has made several acquisitions in recent years, has been able to retain about a third of the staffers who joined his firm, Chicago-based Waident Technology Solutions. Those who left tended to be uncomfortable with the culture at their new company; for example, they were used to

working on their own and had a hard time adapting to team work.

"With each person, we sit down and talk to them, and ask, 'What are you doing now, and what skills do you have?'" Ahlberg says. "But most of the conversation revolves around, 'What are your hopes and dreams. What do you want to be doing?'"

Those conversations must be ongoing, Ahlberg says: "We sit with everyone regularly to make sure they are heard, we discuss the company expectations and define what is expected of them. We try to leave nothing vague."

Sometimes there isn't much an owner can do. Steve Sargent hoped for an easy transition when he bought an automotive repair shop in Cary, North Carolina, in March and turned it into a Mr. Transmission/Milex franchise. He told the three staffers they could keep their jobs, but changes he made, including new technology to handle transactions and accounting, were troubling for the shop manager. Sargent provided training and tried to talk to the man, but couldn't get him to open up about his frustration.

"He always said he wasn't going to leave," Sargent says. But nearly three months after Sargent arrived, "he called me and said, I can't do this anymore," Sargent recalls.

Sargent advises other owners to keep communicating, but be ready for people to quit.

"Not everyone will make it through the transition, so be proactive about looking for replacements before a person leaves," he says. □

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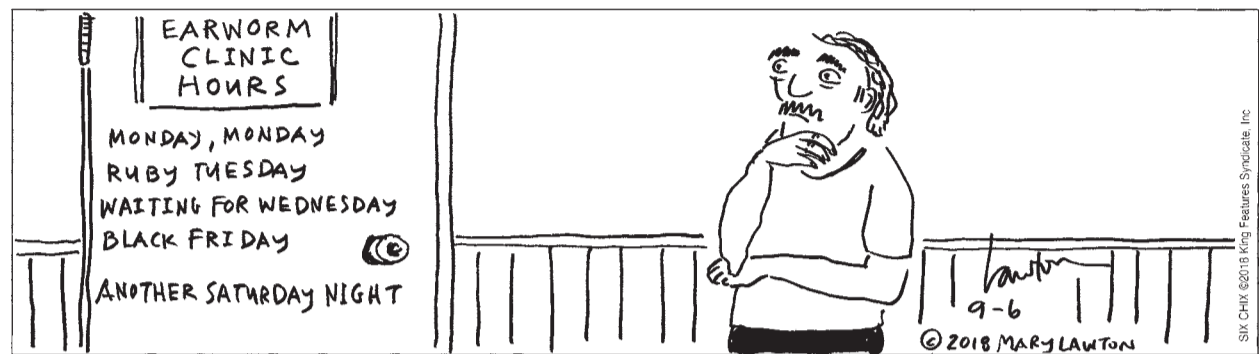
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		4		9			6	
2		5		1				
							3	7
			8		1			
1	8						7	2
			2		4			
5	2							
				4		8		6
	3			2		5		

Difficulty Level ★★★

9/06

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

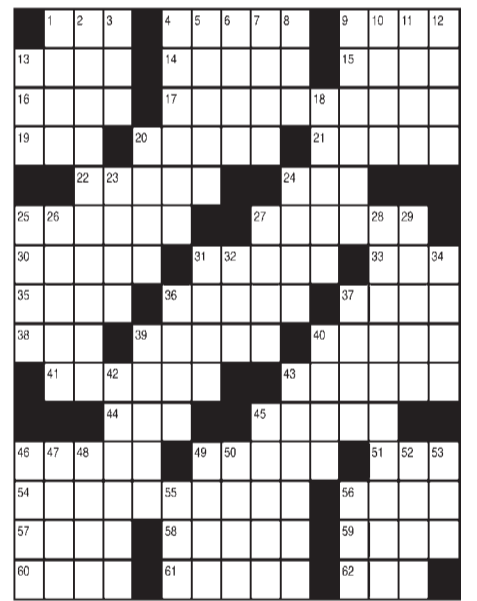
1	8	6	7	4	3	2	9	5
4	3	9	5	8	2	6	1	7
2	5	7	1	6	9	4	3	8
7	1	4	2	9	5	3	8	6
5	6	2	3	1	8	7	4	9
3	9	8	4	7	6	1	5	2
8	2	5	6	3	1	9	7	4
9	7	1	8	2	4	5	6	3
6	4	3	9	5	7	8	2	1

ACROSS

- Clean the linoleum
- Hinder the growth of
- Hard hit
- Walk the floor
- Mid-afternoon
- Neighbor of Nebraska
- Costa
- Having qualms about
- pedestal; lovingly honored
- Gave a pink slip to
- Wash off soapsuds
- Digger's tool
- Prefix for violent or toxic
- Painkiller
- Giggles and guffaws
- Ascended
- Look for expectantly
- the ramparts we watched...
- Slight coloring
- On the
- lurking around
- "True", John Wayne film
- Body of water
- Indy 500 & others
- Actor Michael
- Santa's vehicle
- Teases
- JFK's predecessor
- Small role for a big star
- Dwelling
- Undress
- Org. for Lakers & Pacers
- Signed up
- Commotion
- Doesn't for; dislikes
- Run and wed
- smoothie; healthy shake
- Brings civil charges against
- Birch tree variety
- Not well

DOWN

- Downtown street name



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

9/6/18

- Occurring now and again
- Split soup
- Take long steps
- "Been", done that
- Egg on
- Geek
- 20th letter
- Like a cold sharp wind
- Cut of pork
- Possesses
- Salary
- In favor of
- Freshwater fish
- Destiny
- One of three tenses
- Tack
- Dobbin's dinner
- Uses a crowbar
- Regulations
- Like Across answers in a crossword puzzle
- Large fish net
- Part of the foot
- Misery
- Mailmen's beats: abbr.
- Congressional runner

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

ABC	GLADE	MODE
SEAT	REBUT	ADAY
KERR	EAUDE	LONE
TRIMESTER	IRKS	
POKE	NAG	
THROBS	POIGNANT	
HOODS	PLATE	DUO
ARTS	LEERY	JAKE
IDO	LANAS	HOMIE
SERPENTS	MOUSSE	
EGG	PURR	
SOFA	UTTERANCE	
EARL	AIRED	ALLY
THEE	GLOVE	LUKE
SUED	ELDER	ESS

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9/6/18

- Peer
- Carnival attractions
- Sleep under the stars
- Albert & Fisher
- Oakland athlete
- Thin pancake
- Circle portions
- Suitor
- Monster
- Peddle
- on; trample
- Invoice
- "My lips" sealed
- Actress Leoni
- boots; Killy's footwear

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Cape Cod beaches: Playgrounds for tourists, and young sharks

By PHILIP MARCELO

BOSTON (AP) — As another beach season draws to a close on Cape Cod, researchers are trying to figure out what's driving the increase in shark sightings and encounters — including the state's first attack on a human since 2012.

One prominent researcher suggests the presence of younger and smaller great white sharks this summer could be playing a role.

Greg Skomal, a state marine biologist leading a five-year study wrapping up this year, says his team spotted 149 great whites off Cape Cod in July, more than double the 74 observed last July and the 120 in 2016.

He said somewhat smaller great whites — measuring about 8 to 10 feet — appeared to make up a greater number of the sharks observed than in year's past, though he said his team is still analyzing the data.

Skomal suggested more younger sharks could be contributing to the en-



In this Aug. 23, 2018 photo, a dead great white shark lies on the shoreline in Truro, Mass.

Associated Press

counters that are increasingly being captured in viral photos and videos, particularly those of sharks snatching fish off anglers' hooks.

Smaller sharks, he said, tend to prefer large fish like striped bass prized by rec-

reational fishermen, while larger adult sharks measuring up to 15 feet typically hunt seals.

"Cape Cod may represent a productive feeding ground not just for mature white sharks, but also for juveniles," Skomal said. "It's

something we'll certainly be watching out for."

The presence of younger white sharks in Massachusetts waters isn't totally unheard of.

The waters between Cape Cod and New Jersey have been long been consid-

ered a regional white shark "nursery" where great whites spend the first years of their life before gradually expanding their territorial reach. But more frequent sightings of juvenile sharks could suggest a broader recovery for Atlantic white shark populations, a phenomenon that's already been documented on the U.S. west coast, said George Burgess, director emeritus of the International Shark Attack File, a database maintained at the Florida Museum of Natural History in Gainesville.

"If anything, it's indicative of a healthy population," Skomal said. "As the white shark rebounds across the East Coast, we should be seeing a broader range of sizes."

Juvenile sharks could also simply be following their favored prey as they move into areas they're not typically found, said Tobey Curtis, a shark researcher at the National Marine Fisheries Service in Gloucester, Massachusetts. □

Tiny Alaska village experiences boom in polar bear tourism

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) — A tiny Alaska Native village has experienced a boom in tourism in recent years as polar bears spend more time on land than on diminishing Arctic sea ice.

More than 2,000 people visited the northern Alaska village of Kaktovik on the Beaufort Sea last year to see polar bears in the wild, Alaska's Energy Desk reported Monday.

The far north community is located on north shore of Barter Island on the Beau-

fort Sea coast in an area where rapid global warming has sped up the movement of sea ice, the primary habitat of polar bears. As ice has receded to deep water beyond the continental shelf, more bears are remaining on land to look for food.

The village had less than 50 visitors annually before 2011, said Jennifer Reed, of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

"Today we're talking about hundreds and hundreds of

visitors, many from around the world each year," Reed said.

Polar bears have always been a common sight on sea ice near Kaktovik, but residents started noticing a change in the mid-1990s. More bears seemed to stay on land, and researchers began taking note of more female bears making dens in the snow on land instead of on the ice.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologists began hearing reports of increasing numbers of polar bears in the area in the early 2000s, Reed said. As more attention was given to the plight of polar bears about a decade ago, more tourists stated heading to Kaktovik. Most tourists visit in the fall, when bears are forced toward land because sea ice is the farthest away from the shore. Some bears be-



This photo provided by Bruce Inglangasak shows a polar bear, Sunday, Sept. 2, 2018, in the northern Alaska village of Kaktovik on the Beaufort Sea.

Associated Press

come stranded near Kaktovik until the sea freezes again in October or November.

The fall is also when residents of Kaktovik kill three bowhead whales. Bruce Inglangasak, an Inupiaq subsistence hunter who offers wildlife viewing tours, said residents were unsure how tourists would react to whaling. "The community was scared about, you know, activists that was going to try to get us to shut down

the whaling — subsistence whaling," Inglangasak said. "But that's not true."

Inglangasak said he's been offering polar bear tours since 2003 or 2004.

Most of his clients are from China and Europe, as well as from the Lower 48 U.S. states and arrive in Kaktovik on charter planes from Anchorage and Fairbanks.

Many tourists stay several days in the village, which has two small hotels, Inglangasak said. □

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'Small Fry' more than a Steve Jobs story

By BARBARA ORTUTAY

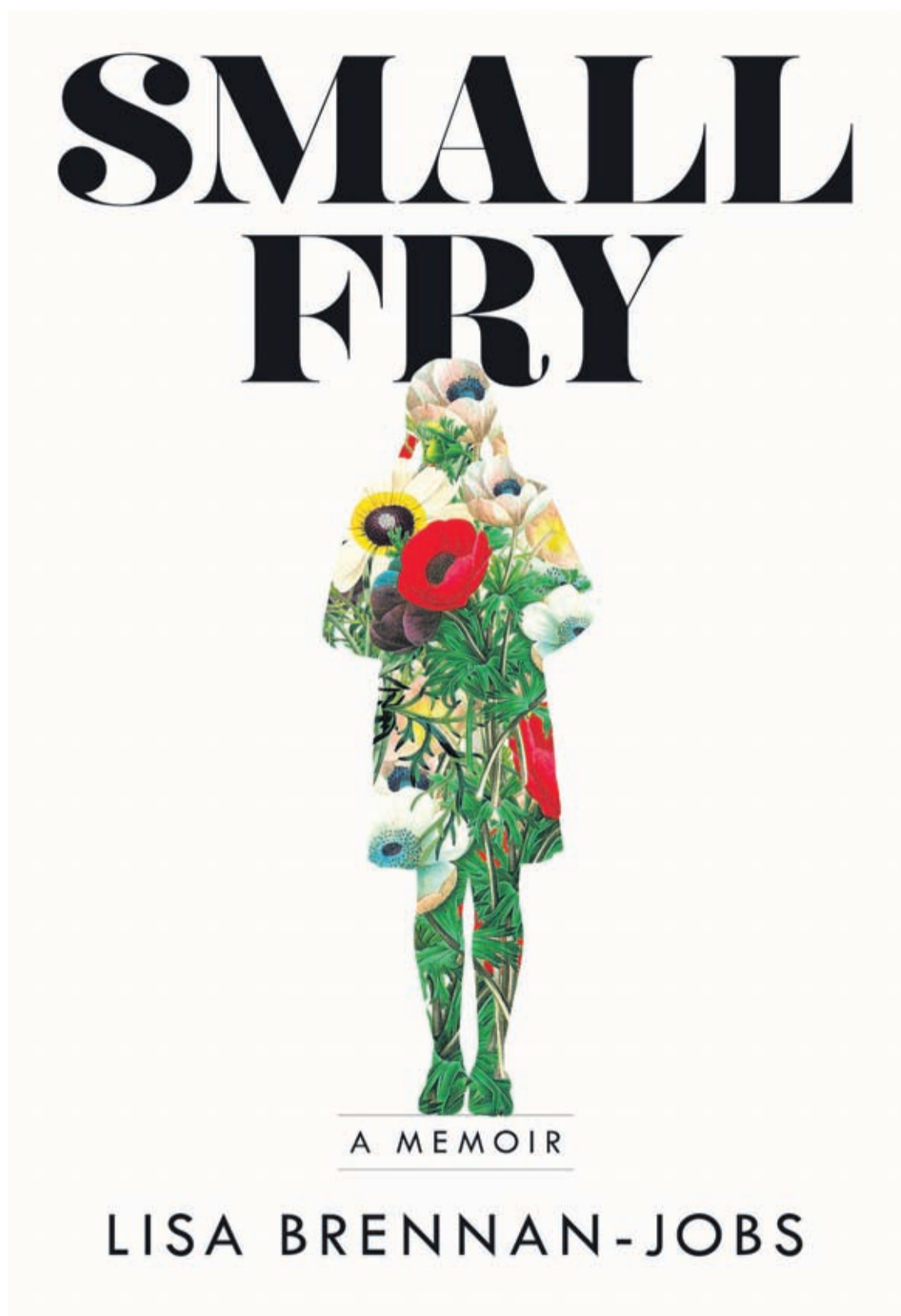
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"Small Fry: A Memoir" (Grove Press), by Lisa Brennan-Jobs. The ghost of Steve Jobs haunts "Small Fry," the memoir by his first daughter, Lisa Brennan-Jobs. He looms larger than life even on the pages where he is missing — and he missed a lot. But we already knew that. We also knew that he was not a particularly nice person, that he was a genius, a charismatic visionary, the co-founder of Apple Computer.

But the book is more than the missing piece of the Steve Jobs puzzle. It's a story of a girl growing up in 1980s and '90s California trying to fit into two very different families and not belonging in either. It's the story of her single mother trying to keep it together and often not succeeding. It's the story of a family that is as imperfect as every family, things complicated by wealth, fame and, in the end, illness and death.

Read "Small Fry" one way and you'll find the account of a reluctant, sometimes outright hostile, mercurial father whose daughter is constantly reaching after the tiniest crumbs of love and attention. Read it another way, with Lisa and not Steve as the central character, and you'll find the story of an observant child coming of age and trying to make sense of the people around her, vying for what she views as a "normal" family and not yet knowing that for most of us, no such thing exists. She tries so hard to find her place in the world that the details of her efforts are sometimes painfully uncomfortable, like when she decides to run for freshman class president a month or two after transferring to a new school, hardly knowing anyone, or pines to be a beautiful blonde, or paints herself as a Cinderella, having to do the dishes in the Jobs' household because the dishwasher is broken.

(Full disclosure: I attended high school with Lisa, who was in the grade above



This cover image released by Grove Press shows "Small Fry," a memoir by Lisa Brennan-Jobs.

Associated Press

me. While we did not know each other, we were on the school paper together and shared the rare privilege that was high school in Palo Alto in the 1990s. I remember her striking eyebrows, that she was going to Harvard and the day Steve Jobs visited our paper during production, bringing us vegan, cheeseless pizza and a rowdy child who messed up the carefully pasted-up newspaper pages.)

Lisa was born in 1978 on a farm in Oregon. Her parents, who were 23, laid

her on a blanket, going through names until they could both agree on Lisa. Her mother, Chrisann Brennan, drew stars on the margins of her birth certificate, which listed both parents' names even though Lisa had just her mother's last name. Despite obvious physical similarities, Steve Jobs denied that he was Lisa's father at the beginning, and in 1980 the state of California sued him, requiring a DNA test to prove his paternity and compelling him to pay child support. Years later, when Lisa

was living with him after a slow warming up, she'd get a new birth certificate, this one listing both Brennan and Jobs as her last name, connected by a hyphen. Lisa remains that hyphen throughout the book, tugged between her parents and the very different worlds they inhabit. From her mother, she gets unconditional love but also a neediness that is often too much for a child to bear. From her father, she's handed bits and pieces of the evidence of his love — roller skating, Wednesday

nights of movies and carrot salad, and, after years of denial, an acknowledgment that he did in fact name an early computer he created, the Lisa, after his daughter. But evidence of his love wasn't steady or dependable, causing Lisa to crave it all the more. He'd promise and not deliver, or deliver then rescind, throughout her life.

"We all made allowances for his eccentricities, the way he attacked other people, because he was also brilliant and sometimes kind and insightful," she writes, after her father tells the A-student, high-school Lisa that she has "no marketable skills" despite her many extracurricular activities. "Now I felt he'd crush me if I let him. He would tell me how little I meant over and over until I believed it." To some, this is an unfair portrayal of Steve Jobs — as his widow, Laurene Powell Jobs, and his sister, Mona Simpson, assert in a joint statement saying that "Steve loved Lisa, and he regretted that he was not the father he should have been during her early childhood."

But this becomes clear at the end of the book, when he is on his sickbed and tells Lisa, over and over, that he "owes" her one. He starts to cry.

"If only we'd had a manual. If only I'd been wiser. But you were not to blame I want you to know, you were not to blame for any of it," he tells her.

Steve Jobs died on Oct. 5, 2011. But we knew that, too. Sometime before that, Lisa complains to her mother that Steve does not love her. She assures her that is not true, that he loves her but he doesn't know it. He doesn't know until it is too late. Chrisann quotes an old Billie Holiday song: "Mama may have, papa may have, but God bless the child who's got his own." In the end, that's all one can wish for children, even if they are fully grown with children of their own, even if they are the children of Steve Jobs. □

At the Toronto Film Festival, searing portraits of today

By JAKE COYLE

NEW YORK (AP) — The Toronto International Film Festival is an overwhelming omnibus of moviegoing that every year, through an onslaught of Oscar contenders and cinematic feasts, reflects the world around us. But more than usual, this year's festival radiates with urgent topicality, both on screen and off. Take Steve McQueen's "Widows," which will make its world premiere at Toronto. McQueen's follow-up to his Oscar-winning "12 Years a Slave" has the trappings of a genre movie: It's about a group of recently widowed women who seek to pull off a heist their husbands had planned before dying in a police raid. But it electrically, expansively surveys fault lines of racial and gender biases across the vicious landscape of Chicago politics. For McQueen, it's a movie about today.

"To me, this film was important because it's about questions which are raised now. These are scenes that are going on now. Yes, it's



This image released by Twentieth Century Fox shows Viola Davis, left, and Cynthia Erivo in a scene from "Widows."

Associated Press

within the genre of a heist film, but within that, I wanted to raise very important political questions, and that's what it was all about. Elections, voting. No one is to be trusted," McQueen says. "But at the same time, how do we as individuals

navigate our way through this cesspool of politics and corruption? How can we be valiant? Small victories sometimes lead to bigger victories, but all we have right now is small victories." The 43rd Toronto International Film Festival begins Thursday with the premiere of David Mackenzie's Robert the Bruce epic "Outlaw King," one of eight Netflix original films at the festival. In the 343 films to unspool over the next 10 days, there will be films that investigate democracy in the face of white supremacist terrorism (Paul Greengrass' "22 July"), that pry into the intimate tragedies of police brutality (Barry Jenkins' "If Beale Street Could Talk," George Tillman Jr.'s "The Hate U Give") and that directly confront the Trump era (Michael Moore's "Fahrenheit 11/9," Errol Morris' Steve Bannon documentary "American Dharma"). "If you look at the slate, I would say that cinema is alive and well and more engaged than ever with the world around it," says Cameron Bailey, the co-head of TIFF. "You're finding filmmakers who are really digging into contemporary life, the politics, the social conflicts that are happening all around us."

That engagement includes

the festival, itself. Toronto will host a women's rally in the ongoing push to improve gender equality in the movie industry. It's also diversifying the TIFF press corps, inviting and paying the way for approximately 180 journalists from under-represented groups: women, minority and LGBTQ critics.

Toronto, where for years Harvey Weinstein was a red-carpet regular and where Louis C.K. last year debuted his now much derided (and since buried) "I Love You, Daddy," is also making its code of conduct more visible. Films directed by women make up 36 percent of this year's lineup, TIFF's highest percentage.

"The film business changes when we make changes. I think a lot of us have the ability and the power to make change and we just have to use it," says Bailey. "We're looking harder. We're making more of an effort to find great films by women. But they're out there." Among the many findings are new films from Claire Denis ("High Life," with Robert Pattinson), Marielle Heller ("Can You Ever Forgive Me?" with Melissa McCarthy) and Rashida Jones ("Quincy"). Some of the most high-profile premieres are headlined by actress-

es, including Viola Davis ("Widows"), Nicole Kidman ("Destroyer"), Julia Roberts ("Homecoming") and Natalie Portman ("Vox Lux"). "It does feel like there's a lot of female-driven content up there. And that's great. I'm happy to stop and celebrate for a moment. But as my dad says in the movie, we have so much work to do," says Jones, whose documentary is about her music legend father Quincy Jones. "So let's celebrate for a second and then let's get back to work and make sure that we don't get too pleased with ourselves about having fixed everything. Because there's a lot to undo."

Much of the attention at TIFF will surround the films that drew raves last week at the Venice Film Festival, like Alfonso Cuarón's "Roma," Damien Chazelle's "First Man" and Bradley Cooper's "A Star Is Born." How potential Academy Awards contenders reverberate among the larger audiences and massive media contingent of Toronto's launching pad usually says a lot about their Oscar chances. Added to the mix will be Felix Van Groenigen's father-son addiction drama "Beautiful Boy," with Steve Carell and Timothee Chalamet, and Moore's anticipated Trump documentary.

Moore believes his film, which examines the roads leading to what he considers a frightfully perilous moment for America, will connect with audiences unlike any of his previous documentaries.

"The fact that it's ready before the midterms is our good luck, I guess. But I've never believed you should put a film out until it's ready," says Moore. "I think this movie, I've seen it sear into people's brains, into their hearts. I believe with this film people are not even going to go to bed that night."

As the swift sale and release last year of eventual Oscar-winner "I, Tonya" showed, the films on the market in Toronto can quickly enter the awards fray, too. □

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Mexican rock band Mana is Latin Grammys' Person of the Year

By SIGAL RATNER-ARIAS

NEW YORK (AP) — Mana will be honored as Person of the Year 2018 by the Latin Recording Academy, and Fher Olvera, lead vocalist of the influential Mexican rock band, can't help but recall its beginnings "in a little truck," as they say, chopping wood and carrying water.

"The band Mana started from way, way down," Fher told The Associated Press in an interview from his house in Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico. "Everything that happens in our lives as artists is a huge surprise ... so to get to this point where we're going to be 'Person of the Year' of such an important award ceremony is a big achievement. We were very inspired with the news."

Mana, winner of six Latin Grammys and four Grammys, will be recognized for its achievements and contributions to the Latin com-



In this Oct. 25, 2016, file photo, members of the Mexican rock band Maná, drummer Alex González, vocalist Fher Olvera, bassist Juan Calleros and guitarist Sergio Vallín pose during an interview in New York.

Associated Press

munity, as well as its constant support to the preservation and protection of the environment and human rights, the Latin academy announced Wednesday.

Olvera, drummer Alex González, guitarist Sergio Vallín and bass player Juan Calleros will be honored Nov. 14 at the Mandalay Bay Events Center in Las Vegas, where a variety of Latin stars

will be performing some of the hits from Mana's repertoire, which includes "Vivir Sin Aire," "Cuando los Angeles Lloran" and "Rayando el Sol," among others.

"Mana is an iconic band with a profound social and environmental consciousness that has created captivating and vibrant music for over three decades," said Gabriel Abaroa Jr., president and CEO of the

Latin Recording Academy, in a statement. "Fusing mainly funk, reggae, ska, bolero and a spectrum of Latin rhythms mixed with pure rock, Mana has created true musical anthems." "In addition to becoming worldwide Latin music icons, their members have championed for social justice, global equality and encouraged environmental protection using the force of their melodies and lyrics, which repeatedly remind our communities of our strength, resilience and our inherent cultural value," Abaroa added.

For over 30 years, Mana has used its voice to emphasize environmental, social, political and human rights issues through its songs, concerts and, more recently, social media. In 1996, the band created the Fundación Ecológica Selva Negra, which works to preserve endangered species, offers educational

programs on the environment, and contributes and organizes community development projects. Mana has promoted the Latino vote in the U.S. and Latin American and has denounced what it deems as social injustices in countries such as Venezuela, Nicaragua and Bolivia. "When I'm criticized as to why I stick my nose in other countries' internal affairs, that is nonsense, because we are not countries," said Olvera, who spoke in Spanish. "We are human beings, we are people, and we must care about people. Not only within our own family or our own city or country, we have to care about the people of the world! We are all on the same boat." He remembered that since Mana's beginnings in Guadalajara in the mid-'80s, he and his bandmates saw that rock 'n' rollers used their platform to promote a better world. □

Fashion art installation questions what it means to be you

By LEANNE ITALIE

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — High heels that are part of your feet. Matching bespoke beating hearts. Bioreactive necklaces and bioluminescent filaments that serve as a Medusa-esque back ornament.

Enter the world of A. Human, a fictional brand on Mercer Street that serves as both commentary on the touchy nature of body modifications today and the external focus and force of the fashion industry. And, also, what it means to be, well, you.

The immersive art show was thought up by Simon Huck, who enlisted Kim Kardashian West, Chrissy Teigen and some of his other famous friends to tease his Disney World for grown-ups that comes complete with a gift shop and an invitation to the public to walk through all month — for \$40 a ticket.

The idea is that A. Human, and its spring-summer 2019 collection from the future,

can help you reimagine your body, but not in a Dr. Frankenstein way. These modifications, a mouthful of marble tooth inlays, for instance, or bony turquoise-colored barnacles at the shoulders (color options available), are more about self-expression than vain alterations aimed at cultural acceptance.

"How do you make body modifications not scary? That was our biggest challenge. How do you create a world where they can be stylish and inviting and not invoke that 'ew' feeling that you sometimes get when you look at body modifications? That was part of the ethos of A. Human," explained Huck during a walk-through Tuesday, ahead of the official start of New York Fashion Week. "If you could as easily change your body as you change your clothing, would you? That's the biggest question that we're asking," he said.

Huck offers up his body changes instead of clothes.



This Tuesday, Sept. 4, 2018 photo shows a display as part of an immersive art show by Simon Huck, ahead of the official start of New York Fashion Week.

Associated Press

His team includes a specialist in transhumanism working alongside the guy who thought of Lady Gaga's meat dress, Nicola Formichetti, among others. Huck started thinking it up about a year ago and went to work six months later.

There are modifications for special occasions, nights out on the town or romantic gestures, such as the two hearts with identical infrastructure and housed in your body and that of

your spouse or best friend. There's the Carnival for the party crowd, a set of transdermal blacklit implants that present as sculptured ridges by day but lit-up flares at the club.

How about some pink living eyelashes that respond to music, lighting and mood, with growth patterns that can be adjusted at will? The Ursula includes bioreactive gemstones at the neck with culture keratin. It looks like sea treasure and

can be customized.

Kardashian West didn't need much convincing when Huck told her of the project. She dreamed up an implanted necklace with LED technology that syncs with one's heart.

"It's a very popular piece in our collection," Huck deadpanned. "Kim knew within seconds, this is how I want it to look, this is how I want it to feel."

As for "biological heels," they come in three varieties in Huck's not-so-dystopian fashion world that merges science and architecture.

"Part of A. Human is we wanted it to feel familiar," Huck said. "We didn't want it to be quintessential scary." While his theories take on the future, way off or perhaps not too distant, some of his models were very much alive, showing off the pieces in clear boxes mounted on walls, only heads and shoulders showing, or in black installations, their bodies also mostly hidden in what is made to look like soil. □

#NotInvisible: Why are Native American women vanishing?

By SHARON COHEN

Associated Press

VALIER, Mont. (AP) —

The searchers rummage through the abandoned trailer, flipping over a battered couch, unfurling a stained sheet, looking for clues. It's blistering hot and a grizzly bear lurking in the brush unleashes a menacing growl. But they can't stop.

Not when a loved one is still missing.

Ashley HeavyRunner Loring, a 20-year-old member of the Blackfeet Nation, was last heard from around June 8, 2017. Since then her older sister, Kimberly, has been looking for her.

"I need to do this," says 24-year-old Kimberly. "I don't want to search until I'm 80. But if I have to, I will."

Ashley's disappearance is one small chapter in the unsettling story of missing and murdered Native American women and girls. No one knows precisely how many there are because some cases go unreported, others aren't documented thoroughly and there isn't a specific government database tracking these cases. But one U.S. senator with victims in her home state calls this an epidemic, a long-standing problem linked to inadequate resources, outright indifference and a confusing jurisdictional maze.

Now, in the era of #MeToo, this issue is gaining political traction as an expanding activist movement focuses on Native women, a population with some of the nation's highest rates of sexual



Randy Ortiz wears a shirt with the names of missing and murdered indigenous women as he searches for Ashley HeavyRunner Loring in the mountains of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation in Babb, Mont., Thursday July 12, 2018.

Associated Press

violence and domestic abuse.

For many, the issue is deeply personal.

"I can't think of a single person that I know ... who doesn't have some sort of experience," says Ivan MacDonald, a member of the Blackfeet Nation. "These women aren't just statistics. These are grandma, these are mom. This is an aunt, this is a daughter." MacDonald and his sister, Ivy, recently produced a documentary on Native American women and girls in Montana who've vanished or been killed. Among them: their 7-year-old cousin, Monica, who disappeared from school in 1979. Her body was found frozen on a mountain, and

no one has ever been arrested.

There are many similar mysteries. Sometimes, there's a quick resolution. But often, there's frustration with tribal police and federal authorities, and a feeling many cases aren't handled urgently or thoroughly.

"It boils down to racism," MacDonald argues. "You could sort of tie it into poverty or drug use or some of those factors ... (but) the federal government doesn't really give a crap at the end of the day."

Tribal police and investigators from the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs serve as law enforcement on reservations, which are sovereign nations. But the FBI investigates certain offenses and, if there's ample evidence, the U.S. Department of Justice prosecutes major felonies such as murder, kidnapping and rape if they occur on tribal lands. Former North Dakota federal prosecutor Tim Purdon calls it a "jurisdictional thicket" of overlapping authority and different laws depending on the crime, where it happened (on a reservation or not) and whether a tribal member is the victim or perpetrator. Missing person cases on reservations can be especially tricky. Some people run away,

but if a crime is suspected, it's difficult to know how to get help.

Sarah Deer, a University of Kansas professor, author of a book on sexual violence in Indian Country and member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, says Native women have long been considered disposable and that's "made us more of a target, particularly for the women who have addiction issues, PTSD and other kinds of maladies."

That attitude permeates reservations where tribal police are frequently stretched thin and lack training and families complain officers can be slow to respond, telling them their loved ones will even-

tually return.

U.S. Sen. Heidi Heitkamp is trying to address these problems with "Savanna's Act," named after Savanna LaFontaine-Greywind, 22, who was murdered in North Dakota in 2017 while eight months pregnant. Neighbors cut her baby girl from her womb. The child survived. A woman pleaded guilty, and her boyfriend awaits trial.

The bill proposed by Heitkamp, a North Dakota Democrat, aims to improve tribal access to federal crime information databases. It would also require the Department of Justice to develop a protocol to respond to cases of missing and murdered Native Americans.

Lawmakers in a few states also are responding with measures that aim to get a better handle on the magnitude of the problem. A 2016 federal study found more than 80 percent of Native women experience violence in their lives.

For the Blackfeet Nation, which has seen cases of domestic abuse and murder, Ashley's disappearance is just the latest trauma.

Posters of her are scattered around town, showing a fresh-faced woman flashing the peace sign.

Kimberly remembers her sister as funny and feisty, the keeper of the family photo albums who always carried a camera. She learned to ride a horse before a bike and liked to whip up giant breakfasts of biscuits and gravy. □



A woman performs a traditional Native American dance during the North American Indian Days celebration on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation in Browning, Mont., Friday, July 13, 2018.

Associated Press



Roxanne White, whose aunt was murdered in 1996, sings and drums a women's warrior and honor song created for missing and murdered indigenous women, before joining a search in Valier, Mont.

Associated Press